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1 kilometre = 0.625 miles

1 metre = 3.280 feet

1 sq. kilometre = 0.386 sq. miles

1 hectare = 2.477 acres

1 deciton = 0.984 cwts.

1 kilogramme = 2.204 pounds

marks = MDN (marks of the Deutsche Notenbank)

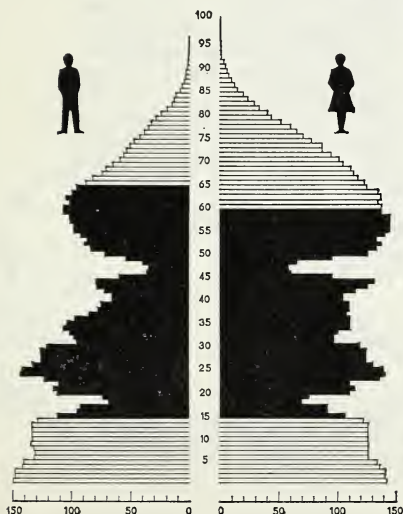
COUNTRY AND PEOPLE

The German Democratic Republic, which is situated in the heart of Europe, covers an area of 108,174 square kilometres. In the north it is bounded by the Baltic Sea, in the east the Oder and Neisse rivers form the frontier with the People's Republic of Poland. In the west the GDR borders on the West German Federal Republic, and in the south the Erzgebirge Mountains form a natural frontier with the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

In the north a low plain extends across the whole of the country, to the south and south-west range sub-alpine mountains reaching an average height of 700 metres. The highest elevations of the GDR are the Fichtelberg and the Brocken with heights of 1,214 metres and 1,143 metres above sea-level respectively.

The landscape of the GDR has many attractions. Along the Baltic coast stretch many miles of sandy beach and a large number of coastal resorts have grown up on the Isle of Rügen and the Isle of Usedom. Steep chalk cliffs rise from the sea on Rügen's north coast: the "King's Chair" near the train ferry port of Sassnitz (GDR-Sweden ferry) and Cape Arkona with its light-

THE POPULATION PYRAMID
OF THE GDR
(DECEMBER 31, 1964)



house are known throughout the world. Dark pine forests, and the chain of numerous lakes interconnected with waterways, which provide canoeists, yachtsmen and campers with many opportunities for sport and recreation, give the North German Plain its unique beauty. Large nature reserves—such as the bird sanctuary at Lake Müritz or the Schorfheide wild-life reserve—lie in the north of the GDR. The Republic's largest holiday and recreational areas are in the sub-alpine mountainous region: The Harz Mountains with the Rappbode Dam: the Thuringian Forest with its many holiday centres and spas: the Vogtland region with the spas Bad Elster and Radiumbad Brambach: the Erzgebirge Mountains which, although an important industrial area, attract scores of holidaymakers both in summer and in winter: the famed Saxon Switzerland—a paradise for holiday-makers and rock climbers, and the densely wooded peaks of the Lusatian Mountains in the south-east.

The Republic's most important mineral deposits are lignite (brown coal) and potash. Mineral oil and natural gas is found in the southern foothills of the Harz Mountains and in Mecklenburg. Iron ore of a low Fe content is mined in Thuringia and the Harz Mountains. Non-ferrous ores are mined at various places in the sub-alpine region.

The GDR has a population of 17.01 million people, of which 7.75 million are males and 9.26 million females. With a population density of 157 inhabitants per square kilometre the GDR lies, statistically speaking, between Switzerland and Italy.

Of the 7.6 million gainfully employed persons, 3.5 million are women. 6.4 million people are employed in the socialist sector of the economy and in state institutions, 411,000 people are employed in enterprises working with state partnership and 865,000 people are employed in private enterprises. Industry employs a total of 2.7 million people: the building industry 435,000 people: craft enterprises 398,000: agriculture, forestry and the water services employ 1.27 million: transport 426,000: post and communications 134,000: trade 876,000. In the various branches of non-material production 1.38 million people are employed. There are 32 pensioners for every 100 people of employable age—this extremely unfavourable ratio is a result of the Second World War.

BIRTH-RATE

In 1955, 77 children were born per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 45, in 1963 the figure was 90. With 106.3 children per 1,000 women Rostock has the highest birth-rate of all towns in the GDR.

THE COUNTIES OF THE GDR
WITH COUNTY TOWNS



The only national minority in the GDR are the Lusatian Sorbs who live in the counties (Bezirk) of Dresden and Cottbus. They are descendants of the Slav people who settled in the region between the Oder/Neisse and the Elbe/Saale in the early Middle Ages. In former times, and especially in Nazi Germany, they were oppressed by the ruling classes. Today they enjoy full political, social and national equality, which is guaranteed them by the Constitution of the GDR. The people's assemblies and organs of legislature, in which the Sorbs work with equal rights, protect the interests of the Sorbs. The Sorbs have their own national organisation, the Domowina, which cultivates and promotes their culture and language. The Domowina issues a daily newspaper and other publications. The nationally-owned Domowina publishing house prints Sorb literature, books for young people, popular-scientific and pedagogic literature. A State Ensemble for Sorb folk art and a German-Sorb Folk Theatre are situated in Bautzen.

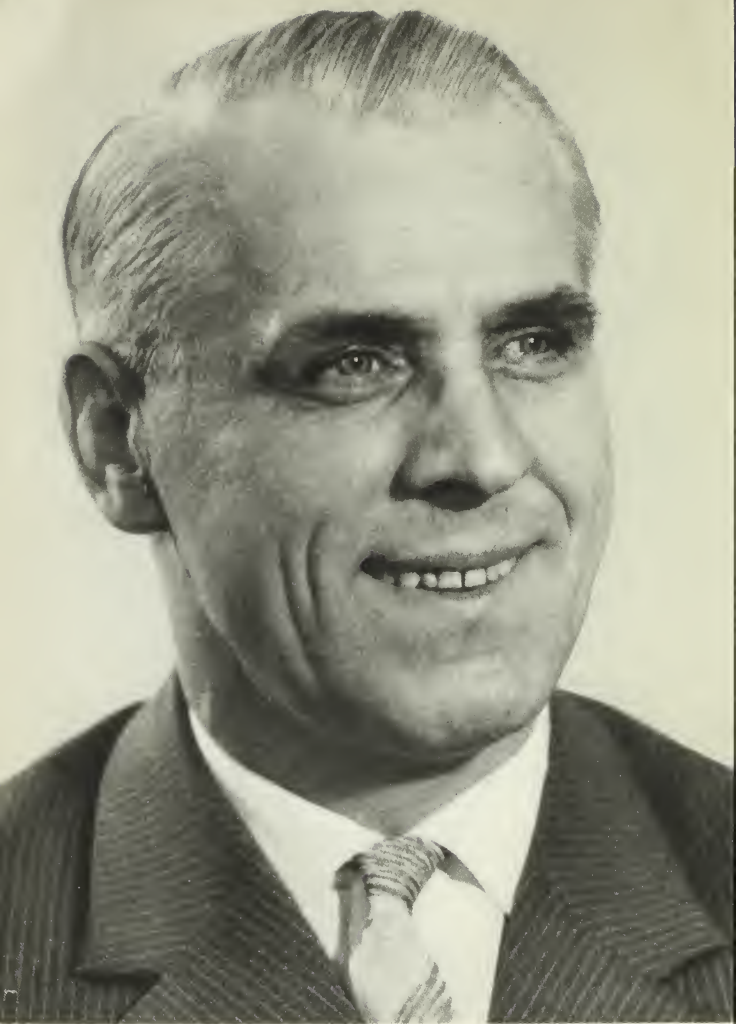
The state territory of the GDR is sub-divided into fifteen counties (Bezirk) with 24 urban and 192 rural districts (Kreis) and 9,164 communities (Gemeinde).

RESIDENT POPULATION ACCORDING TO COUNTIES (December 1964)

	County	County Town
Berlin, capital of the GDR	1,071,462	
Rostock	834,950	179,352
Schwerin	593,722	91,210
Neubrandenburg	632,996	37,934
Potsdam	1,124,264	109,867
Frankfurt/Oder	653,041	58,006
Cottbus	831,837	73,257
Magdeburg	1,323,700	265,141
Halle/Saale	1,930,021	274,402
Erfurt	1,246,807	189,770
Gera	734,204	106,841
Suhl	548,949	28,177
Dresden	1,884,311	503,859
Leipzig	1,511,487	595,203
Karl-Marx-Stadt	2,090,180	293,549
	<u>17,011,931</u>	



Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the State Council of the GDR and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.



*Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR
and member of the State Council of the GDR.*

Professor Johannes Dieckmann, President of the People's Chamber of the GDR and Deputy Chairman of the State Council of the GDR.



Professor Erich Correns, President of the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany and member of the State Council of the GDR.





At the 19th session of the People's Chamber of the GDR on January 21, 1966, the deputies discussed the National-Economic Plan and the State Budget for 1966. Photo shows Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, during his speech.



Citizens of the electoral district of Berlin Mitte discuss important questions of local government with their deputies.



Minister Georg Ewald, Chairman of the Agricultural Council of the GDR (3rd from left), talking to the crew of a potato harvester at the Poseritz Cooperative Farm on the Isle of Rügen.



Gerald Götting, Deputy Chairman of the State Council and Secretary-General of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (2nd from right), during a visit to the Schüngel-Chemie Kommanditgesellschaft, a firm working in partnership with the state, in Burkhardtsdorf near Karl-Marx-Stadt.

Parliamentarians from Chile in animated discussion with GDR Foreign Minister, Otto Winzer (at the head of the table). To his right is seated Georg Stibi, Deputy Foreign Minister.

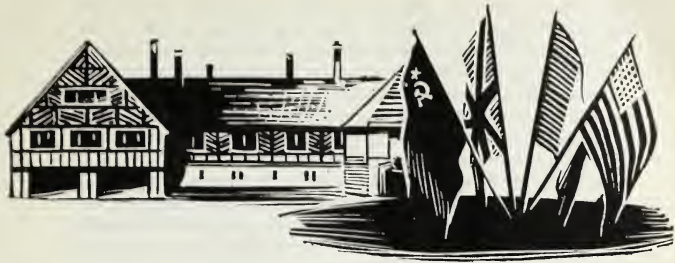


During the visit of a Party and Government Delegation of the GDR to the Soviet Union in September 1965, Walter Ulbricht, his wife and Willi Stoph paid a visit to "Building Combine III" in Kiev, Ukrainian SSR.





In March 1966 a Government Delegation from the GDR visited Cambodia, Burma and India. Our photo shows Dr. Grete Wittkowski, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, during a reception given by the India-GDR Friendship Society, at which she was cordially welcomed by Nurrudin Ahmed, Lord Mayor of New Delhi.



Fascism and the Second World War

In 1933 the ruling circles in Germany set up the fascist dictatorship and with the help of the Hitler regime suppressed the democratic and peace-loving forces. In 1939 the German imperialists and fascists let loose the Second World War. They wanted to bring their old aim of world rule to fulfilment. During the time of the nazi dictatorship it was the best sons and daughters of the working class and other sections of the German people who, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Germany (KPD), in underground resistance groups, in the nazi concentration camps and from abroad, fought a bitter and organised struggle against the Hitler regime. The greatest sacrifice in this struggle was made by the revolutionary German working class. The chairman of the Communist Party of Germany, Ernst Thälmann, was one of the victims. The anti-fascist resistance fighters showed themselves to be representatives of the true and peace-loving Germany. When the nazi attacked the Soviet Union in 1941 the downfall of Hitler Germany was sealed. The Second World War ended in 1945 with the total military defeat and the destruction of the nazi regime. The old German state in which the imperialist forces had ruled no longer existed.

The Road to National Rebirth

When in May 1945 Hitler Germany capitulated unconditionally to the victorious armies of the Soviet Union and the nations allied with it in the Anti-Hitler Coalition, the entire German people were given the opportunity to break with the fatal forces

of the past and to set out on the road to a peaceful future. The Potsdam Agreement which was signed in August 1945 by the USSR, the USA and Great Britain, and later also by France, formed the basis in international law for the establishment of really democratic conditions in Germany. It was intended to prevent another war ever being started in Germany. This aim—the securing of peace in Europe—was completely congruent with the vital interests of the German people.

The Potsdam Agreement demanded that the war criminals be punished, that the leading members of the Nazi party be removed from public office, that the education and judicial system be democratised, and that a self-administration based on democratic principles be established.

The Potsdam Agreement also fixed the liquidation of excessive concentration in the economy (cartels, syndicates, trusts and other monopoly associations), for German monopoly capital had always been the driving force in the preparation and carrying through of wars of aggression.

The newly-formed democratic parties and mass organisations (see page 25) in the then Soviet Zone of Occupation united their forces for the fulfilment of the terms of the Potsdam Agreement, for the overcoming of the enormous difficulties and for peaceful reconstruction. The programme of the Communist Party of Germany issued on June 11, 1945, which showed the German people the road to a fundamental transformation of the social conditions in the whole of Germany by the establishment of an anti-fascist democratic order, was in conformity with the main principles of the Potsdam Agreement.

The most important pre-condition for the successes of a common policy of all patriotic forces was the unity of the working class. In April 1946 the Communist Party of Germany (KPD) and the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) united to form the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), after both parties had decided on the merger at their separate congresses. It was a historic moment when Wilhelm Pieck, in the name of the KPD, and Otto Grotewohl, in the name of the SPD, sealed the unity of the working class with a handshake. Thus, in one part of Germany, the lesson had been learnt from the past, the fateful division of the German working class had been overcome.

The Anti-fascist Democratic Order

By means of the common policy of the anti-fascist and democratic forces under the leadership of the party of the united working class, the principles of the Potsdam Agreement were consistently realised in the East of Germany. The democratic land reform which expropriated big landowners with more than

100 hectares of land without compensation, gave 514,730 resettlers, land workers, peasants and smallholders 3,147,000 hectares of land free of charge. A referendum held in the province of Saxony in 1946 gave the basis for the law on the expropriation of war and nazi criminals and for the transfer of their property into the hands of the people in all the provinces of what was then the Soviet Zone of Occupation. (Here it may be added that in the province of Hesse—West Germany—too, more than 70 per cent of the electors voted in favour of the expropriation of war criminals in a referendum held in December 1946. Against the will of the people, however, the expropriation measures were not carried out.)

In the East of Germany the old fascist state apparatus was smashed, and a new democratic state and judicial apparatus built up. Proven anti-fascists who had actively fought against the nazi regime took over responsible office in the state apparatus, the judiciary and in the economy. A radical transformation in the spirit of peace, democracy and international friendship took place in all spheres of life. This was only possible because in the East of Germany the people had taken their destiny into their own hands.

Two German States

Although in the Potsdam Agreement the Western powers had acknowledged the principle that Germany was to be regarded and treated as "an economic unit" during the period of occupation, in practice they adopted a course contrary to this.

From the very start, the aim of the Western powers was to prevent the development of an anti-imperialist and democratic Germany, and in its stead to create a state which once again was to be used as a battering-ram against socialism and the Soviet Union. As, however, the sphere of influence of the Western powers covered only that part of Germany occupied by them, it was only in Germany's west that they were able to put into practice their policy which was aimed at the suppression of the democratic forces and the restoration of the imperialist and militarist forces.

Soon after the signing of the Potsdam Agreement the splitting measures of the Western powers began to take on form: the Agreement of December 1946 between the USA and Great Britain to unite their zones of occupation was followed by many similar separate agreements such as, for example, the currency reform of 1948 which systematically tore asunder the economic and state structure of Germany. The policy of division reached its apex in September 1949 with the foundation of the West German Federal Republic.

The anti-fascist and democratic forces of the German people tried to oppose this fatal development with the People's Congress Movement for unity and a just peace. Following the completion of the break-off of West Germany from the German national body by the imperialist occupation powers and their West German helpers, the German Democratic Republic was, in accordance with historic necessity founded on October 7, 1949, on what was at that time the territory of the Soviet Zone of Occupation. As a socialist state on German soil it fulfils the legacy of all those patriots who, throughout the years, untiringly fought for a peace-loving and respected Germany. At the helm of the first German Peace State stand men and women who, in the past, were active in the fight against German fascism and militarism.

The Positions of the Two German States

Since 1949 there have been in Germany two states with opposing social orders and following two completely different policies.

Whereas in the form of the German Democratic Republic a sovereign, socialist German national state arose, which follows an anti-fascist, anti-imperialist and anti-militarist policy, there arose in the form of the West German Federal Republic a state with the help of which the armaments monopolies were restored and in which revanchist and militarist forces—in many cases formerly in high positions in the Hitler state—have the keys to power in their hands. This state—the West German Federal Republic—followed from the very beginning the aim of preventing a peaceful, democratic development in Germany, and of blocking the way to socialism.

The GDR takes a stand for disarmament in Germany, for the renunciation of nuclear weapons, for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, for the recognition of the territorial status quo in Europe and for the universal, peaceful cooperation of all states; the West German Federal Republic, on the other hand, speeds arming, seeks control over nuclear weapons, demands a revision of the frontiers formed as a result of the Second World War and disrupts international detente and cooperation with the aggressive Hallstein doctrine.

As a result of the hostile attitude that West Germany has adopted towards the German Democratic Republic for many years culminating in the openly-declared aim of annexing the GDR, there exists an abnormal relationship between the two German states. Measures such as the conclusion of the Paris Treaties, the entry of West Germany into NATO, rearmament and intensive anti-communist propaganda, have steadily

deepened the gap between the two German states and created a situation which pushes German unity far into the future.

A union of the German Democratic Republic with the West German Federal Republic is just as impossible as the union of fire with water. Both the government and population of the GDR are agreed that the achievements of socialism cannot be given up and that it will be a long time until pre-conditions permitting a union with the socialist GDR exist in West Germany. Under the present conditions it is not even possible to consider a confederation of both German states—a first stage on the path to German unity.

The GDR takes the view that the first and most important thing is to secure the peaceful co-existence of both German states and the special territory of West Berlin, and to bring about the normalisation of their relations on the basis of this peaceful co-existence. Among the first constructive steps, to which the GDR is immediately prepared, named by Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the State Council of the GDR, in his 1967 New Year's Message, were the following measures:

- The governments of the two German states should conclude an agreement on the establishment of normal relations with each other.
- The governments of the two German states conclude a treaty rejecting the use of force in their relations with each other.
- The governments of the two German states issue an agreed statement recognising the present frontiers in Europe. The governments of the two German states agree to reduce by one half their arms expenditures.
- The governments of the two German states declare their renunciation of possession, control, or participation in control of nuclear weapons in all forms. At the same time, they shall give agreed and simultaneous pledges to participate in an atom-free zone in Europe.

The government of the GDR remains true to the principle contained in the first Government Declaration of 1949 that it will never acquiesce to the division of Germany. And in this sense it has already submitted more than 150 proposals to the West German government. Today the situation is such that a recognition of the GDR by the West German Federal Republic has to be the first step on the road to further measures.

Detente and normal relations between both German states in the spirit of peaceful co-existence are, without doubt, not possible to realise without a system of European security in which all European states participate with equal rights. For this reason the GDR supports and promotes all efforts directed at European security, and has itself made diverse constructive

proposals. Above all, the GDR propounds that all European states maintain normal relations with both German states.

West Germany's claim to sole representation amounts to an aggressive act against the GDR. The ruling circles in West Germany believe that by means of this presumption (to be the only legitimate German state) they can attack and annex the GDR without fear of retribution. That is the reason why this presumption of sole representation is one of the main hindrances to the security of Europe.

The GDR is of the opinion that the relations between the two German states and the policies followed by them are not only a German but also an international affair, and that, at the same time, the existence and the security of the GDR touch on the existence and security of all European states.

West Berlin, an Independent Political Entity

With the founding of the GDR in 1949, Berlin, in accordance with its constitution, became its capital city. West Berlin, which lies on the territory of the GDR, remained under the separate occupation regime of the Western powers and developed into an independent political structure. It was never, at any time, a part of West Germany and can never come under the jurisdiction of the West German Federal Republic as various West German politicians demand.

It is an indisputable fact that the particular situation of West Berlin, its location in the GDR almost 200 kilometres from West Germany, was exploited to build up this part of Berlin into a bridgehead against the GDR. The continued anachronistic occupation regime of the Western powers in West Berlin is a dangerous breeding-ground for organised attacks against peace. More than 80 West German and Allied espionage and subversive organisations are active in West Berlin and threaten the security of the GDR and the other socialist states by the organisation of sabotage, provocations and acts of violence. The Bonn government authorities and West Berlin revanchist organisations illegally hold meetings in West Berlin and continually add fuel to the fires of the annexation policies directed against the GDR. For many years the systematic enticing away of GDR specialist workers was carried on from West Berlin; from here, too, originated espionage and economic sabotage in various forms, especially currency speculation. Through the open frontier economic damage to the tune of 30,000,000 marks was inflicted on the GDR. In the summer of 1961 provocations increased to such a degree that the danger of war became acute—for at this point where NATO troops and the armed forces of the socialist states allied for their mutual defence by the Warsaw Treaty directly

face each other, any military conflict could have unforeseen consequences.

It was for this reason that the Government of the GDR, in agreement with the governments of the Warsaw Treaty States, closed the frontier with West Berlin on August 13, 1961; to guarantee security and peace, a control system such is usual at the frontiers of all sovereign states was established. These measures showed the West German imperialists and revanchists the limits of their power. But the anomalous situation of West Berlin still remains and there are still armed provocations and frontier violations.

In order to remove this source of danger the Government of the GDR, in agreement with the other socialist states, proposed in 1958 that, until the reunification of Germany, West Berlin should be given the status of a neutral Free City, that the occupation regime in West Berlin should be ended and that the misuse of West Berlin as a centre of espionage and provocation in the middle of the GDR should be stopped. In this way West Berlin could be transformed from a centre of tension to a positive factor in the efforts to normalise relations between the two German states. The neutral Free City of West Berlin could organise its social system as it pleases, it would have only the duty of preventing all warmongering and anti-democratic actions and all acts of subversion against the GDR. The GDR is prepared to guarantee the inviolability of the neutral Free City of West Berlin and the freedom of its connections with the outer world.

The GDR has always been interested in normal and peaceful relations between West Berlin and the GDR. After many other offers for understanding, in December 1963 a first agreement was concluded on the initiative of the GDR between representatives of the Government of the GDR and the West Berlin Senate; this agreement was assessed by the world public as a contribution to the international relaxation of tension. The agreement permitted citizens of West Berlin to visit their relatives in the capital of the GDR. Since then, thanks to the untiring efforts of the GDR, further day-pass agreements in the interests of a peaceful development in Berlin and in the interests of the citizens of West Berlin have been signed. Each of these agreements was, however, only signed after tedious negotiation and much interference on the part of the Bonn government which inadmissibly mixed itself up in West Berlin affairs and on some occasions prevented this sensible settlement.

SOCIAL LIFE

The GDR is a sovereign workers' and farmers' state in which power is exercised by the people under the leadership of the working class. It is a socialist state at present in the phase of the comprehensive building of socialism. The state symbols of the German Democratic Republic are the state flag in the colours black, red, gold with the state emblem, a hammer and compasses, surrounded by a wreath of grain in the middle field, signifying the unity of action of all sections of the population.

The basis for the common action on the part of all citizens is the social ownership of the means of production. This exists in the form of public ownership and cooperative ownership. Along with the socialist ownership, there is also private ownership—private industrial and craft enterprises and private retail trade—these private owners are drawn into the construction of socialism in various ways (see page 46). In 1964 the proportion of the various forms of ownership of the total social product was:

Socialist sector	86.5 per cent
of which nationally-owned	72.7 per cent
cooperatively-owned	13.8 per cent

Enterprises with state participation or commission

agreements	6.0 per cent
Private	7.0 per cent

These new economic conditions resulted in a completely changed social structure. There is no longer a class of the bourgeoisie. The working class is the leading force: it is very closely allied to the farmers who, between the years 1952 and 1960, voluntarily joined together in cooperative farms (LPG), and also with the intelligentsia. The former middle classes, especially the craftsmen who have, to a great extent, joined together in craft cooperatives, are increasingly working in a socialist manner. All these forces are building up socialism together.

The principle, "All power derives from the people" which is contained in the Constitution of the GDR is realised in a practical manner in the various spheres of life through the operation of socialist democracy. This means, in fact, the guidance and direction of all social, economic and cultural processes by the working people themselves. They are co-responsible and help make the decisions. The slogan "Plan together, work together, govern together" is realised in the most varied ways. The path to the exercising of people's self-government is open to all citizens of the Republic; from their help in making improvements at their places of work, in the schools and in residential districts right up to their being elected to the highest bodies of people's representation.

Political Parties and Social Organisations

The multi-party system of the GDR is an expression of the common effort of all the forces of society. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Marxist-Leninist party of the working class, is the driving force. The other political parties and mass organisations are united under its leadership in the democratic bloc in the common fight for the securing of peace, for the victory of socialism in the GDR and for the reunification of Germany. The bloc policy is a characteristic form of democracy for the GDR. Together with the SED, the following parties belong to the democratic bloc: the Democratic Peasant's Party of Germany (DBD) founded in 1948; the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDUD) founded in 1945; the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany (LDPD) founded in 1945; and the National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD) founded in 1948.

To the democratic bloc also belong the GDR's largest mass organisations: the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions (FDGB) founded in 1945 which has more than 6.4 million members; The Democratic Women's Federation of Germany (DFD) founded in 1947; the Free German Youth (FDJ) founded in 1946, the socialist youth organisation of the GDR. All the parties and mass organisations take part in the exercising of state power in many ways.

An important role is also played in the GDR by the German-Soviet Friendship Society (DSF) the Society of Sport and Technology (GST), the Association of German Consumer Cooperatives, the Ernst Thälmann Pioneer Organisation—catering for children between the ages of six and fourteen years and the artist's, writers', journalists' and composers' unions.

The National Front of Democratic Germany

The National Front which unites all German patriots in the struggle for the national rebirth of Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state, is also the broad people's movement for the building up of socialism. In its work people from all sections of the population and of all political views, members of all the political parties and mass organisations. It is one of the pillars of socialist state power with which it closely cooperates in the solution of all main problems. Together with the democratic bloc, the National Front proposes candidates for the elections to the People's Chamber and the local assemblies. It is the forum for the big discussions for the laws under preparation and for all proposals, requests and complaints of the population. It organises the voluntary work of the population within the

framework of the National Reconstruction Programme (NAW) serving the more rapid building up of socialism. Its aims are the conclusion of a German peace treaty, the peaceful solution of the West Berlin question and the step-by-step restoration of the unity of the German nation. It stands for a policy of peaceful coexistence within the bounds of Germany as well.

The People's Representative Bodies

The highest organ of state power in the GDR is the People's Chamber. This, and the local bodies of representation—the county, district, town assemblies, the borough assemblies in the large towns and the village assemblies—are elected every four years in general, single-vote, secret and direct elections. Citizens have the right to vote from the age of 18 and the right to be elected from the age of 21. The candidates for all bodies of representation are proposed by the National Front in cooperation with the democratic bloc on a unified list. All candidates are presented to the electorate at public meetings and through the Press, a form of procedure which allows the electors to get to know the candidates thoroughly. The future deputies receive mandates from their voters on which they must later report back. The deputies hold regular consultations hours in which they get to know the wishes and also the worries of the electorate. Should a deputy disappoint the confidence that has been placed in him he may be recalled from office. This continuous contact between the electorate and the deputy is one of the main characteristics of socialist democracy. There are no professional parliamentarians in the GDR, the work of the deputies is part-time and voluntary. They themselves help to put into operation the laws and decrees that they have passed at the wish of the electorate.

The local assemblies are organs of power within their sphere of jurisdiction. The People's Chamber sets out the directives for government policy. It alone has the power of enacting laws and passing the national economic plan and budget. Taking into account the resolutions and directives agreed to by the central bodies of legislation, the local assemblies agree on measures for the development of their area of jurisdiction which are binding on all administrative bodies, and all organisations and citizens of the area.

All organs of state derive their authority from the bodies of people's representation. In these, are united the power of resolution, organisation and executive control. Thus there is no division between legislative, executive and judicial power. The unity of these three powers is expressed in the fact that the People's Chamber elects the State Council and also endorses

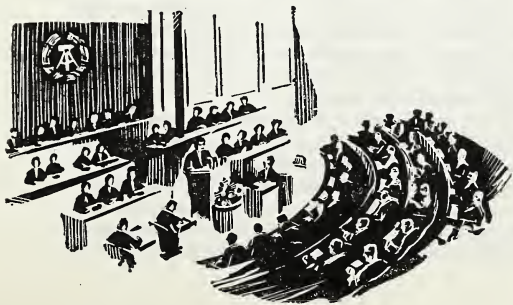
the Council of Ministers, and that it elects, on the proposal of the State Council, the Procurator-General, the President, vice-presidents and judges of the Supreme Court. All these bodies are answerable to the People's Chamber. The local councils as the elected executive organs of the local assemblies are both responsible and answerable to these. The county and district assemblies elect the judges of the county and district courts respectively.

Represented in the People's Chamber are factions of the five previously named parties and the mass organisations, viz., the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions (FGDB), the Democratic Women's Federation of Germany (DFD), the Free German Youth (FDJ) and the German League of Culture (KB).

The People's Chamber has at its disposal committees of experts who do the necessary preparatory work in the drafting of laws and decrees. The local assemblies are supported in their work by the standing committees and their working groups in which more than 650,000 citizens work. Noteworthy is the large number of workers in the compositions of the People's Chamber; of the 434 elected deputies, 245 come from a working-class background. The deputies also include 115 women and 58 citizens between the ages of 21 and 30.

The State Council

The most important organ of the People's Chamber is the State Council of the GDR. It is elected by the People's Chamber for a four-year period. The Chairman of the State Council is Walter



Ulbricht, First Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. The State Council includes six deputy chairmen, 16 members and the secretary. The political and ethical unity of the population of the GDR is reflected in the fact that the State Council is made up of representatives from all sections of the population and from all parties.

The State Council is the scientific guiding centre and working body of the People's Chamber which, between plenary sessions, fulfils all principal tasks arising from laws, decrees and resolutions.

The State Council is the collective head of state of the GDR and exercises functions within international law and its chairman represents the Republic before international law. In this capacity he ratifies and annuls state treaties. He appoints and recalls the authorised representatives of the GDR in other countries and also accepts the credentials and letters of recall of the diplomatic representatives of other states accredited in the GDR.

Of great importance is the duty of the State Council to guarantee that petitions and other applications of the citizens addressed to the People's Chamber are dealt with. The State Council drafts proposals and bills for the People's Chamber; it deliberates, for example, the national economic plans and has the right to pass on such proposals to the sub-committees of the People's Chamber for discussion. It is further authorised to take fundamental decisions on questions of national defence and the security of the Republic. In pursuance of its duties the State Council has the right to issue norms of justice in the form of decrees to be put before the People's Chamber for endorsement, and also resolutions with the power of law.

The Council of Ministers

The Council of Ministers is the executive organ of the People's Chamber and the State Council. It is responsible for carrying through the policy of the state on the basis of the decrees of the People's Chamber and the State Council to which both bodies it is also responsible and accountable. Before appointment to office the members of the Council of Ministers have to receive the approval of the People's Chamber.

The main tasks of the Council of Ministers are the decision on fundamental questions for the development of the national economy of the GDR, and in the guidance of the most important social processes. It presents the State Council and the People's Chamber with drafts of the long-term and yearly plans, the budget and other bills for adoption. The Council of Ministers is responsible for the organisation and control of the fulfilment of

the plans. It issues regulations and resolutions of a general obligatory nature.

The majority of the members of the Council of Ministers come from a working-class background. Its Chairman is Willi Stoph. Subordinate to the Council of Ministers are the State Planning Commission, the various industrial and specialised ministries and the Agricultural Council of the GDR. Further subordinated to it are the Committee of the Workers' and Farmers' Inspectorate, a body incorporating both social and state control, and other national bodies.

Foreign Policy

The GDR is a sovereign state which follows the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respects the norms of international law. The main aim of its foreign policy is directed at the securing of peace and supporting those peoples struggling for liberation and independence. It takes a firm stand for peaceful co-existence between states of different social systems. It strives, in the closest agreement with the USSR and the other socialist states, for a treaty on general and complete disarmament under international control and advocates all partial measures which serve to reduce international tension and the arms drive. Such partial measures are: the abolition of foreign military bases, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from territory outside their own frontiers and an agreement on the banning of the use of nuclear weapons. The GDR advocates the conclusion of an international treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The GDR has made proposals to the 18-nations' Geneva Disarmament Committee on the renunciation by both German states of the production, acquisition, stationing and use of nuclear weapons as well as on measures for the reduction of the military forces and armaments of both German states. The GDR supports the creation of a nuclear-weapon free zone in Central Europe, a measure which is not only in the interests of the German people but also in the interests of all European nations.

At a Press Conference on January 22, 1966, Otto Winzer, Foreign Minister of the GDR, made the following constructive proposals for the securing of peace in Europe. These proposals were notified to all European governments:

Step-by-step relaxation of tension in Europe through agreements on armaments limitation, particularly the renunciation of nuclear weapons in every form by all European states not in possession of such weapons.

Respect for the existing frontiers and strict observation of their inviolability.

Normalisation of the relations between all European states and the normalisation of relations between all the states of Europe and the two German states.

The GDR is allied with the socialist states in close friendship and fraternal cooperation. It is a member of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) and the Warsaw Treaty, the defence alliance of the socialist states.

The GDR supports in solidarity all peoples still struggling for their national liberation from the yoke of colonialism. It maintains friendly relations on the basis of respect for their sovereignty and equality of rights with the emergent states that have won their independence in the fight against colonialism.

In its intercourse with capitalist countries the GDR strives for normal inter-state relations on the basis of peaceful coexistence. The GDR pursues a policy of active cooperation and collaboration in the international organisations and motivated by this spirit has applied for membership in the UNO.

There are state representations of the GDR in 36 states. It maintains diplomatic relations with 13 states. Relations at consulate-general or consulate level exist with 9 states and in 14 states the GDR maintains other state representations, mostly official trade missions.

Up till now the GDR has concluded more than 1,000 international agreements of which 200 are with non-socialist states. It is signatory to 150 multi-lateral international agreements and member of 11 interstate international organisations. In addition, the GDR is represented in a further 265 non-state international organisations of all kinds through state and non-state institutions and individuals.

The League for Friendship among the Peoples and its associated friendship societies play an outstanding part in the promotion of non-state relations with foreign countries. It is their aim to bring about and cultivate peaceful and friendly relations between the population of the GDR and other peoples. They disseminate to other nations information about the social life and the cultural and economic development of the GDR. They give comprehensive information about the peaceful foreign policy of the Republic and the policy of the GDR for the peaceful solution of the national question in Germany. They inform the population of the GDR about the history and culture, social life and economic development of other peoples and countries. An important part in the cultivation of friendly relations is also played by the many twinning agreements between GDR and foreign towns. One example is the friendly relationship existing between Dresden and Coventry in Great Britain.

The Legal System

The public prosecutors and courts of the GDR safeguard the existing social system on the basis of the Constitution, laws and regulations and protect the civic rights of all citizens and social organisations. All citizens are equal before law. Over 45,000 elected lay judges, enjoying the same rights as professional judges, take part in proceedings in courts of the first instance. All judges are elected for a period of four years by their respective town or county assembly and must give public account of their activities. Two thirds of the judges and public prosecutors are former workers and farmers. There are no special courts or political courts in the GDR. Besides their function of bringing cases to trial, the main task of the public prosecutors is to see that the law is observed. Socialist justice is characterised by its close links with the working people who place their confidence in it. Socialist democracy has established new standards and forms in the legal system too. All trials take place with lively public participation. Members of the community or work team where the accused citizen lives or works can give evidence at his trial. These citizens are authorised by the bodies they represent to appear as either social prosecutor or social defender.

This whole procedure enables a verdict to be found that is just in every respect. At present in only about 65 per cent of the cases where an offence has been committed does the accused have to appear before a court of law. 35 per cent of offenders appear before the independent disputes commission elected in the enterprises or before the arbitration commissions in the residential districts, without legal action having to be taken.

The main purpose of the organs for the administration of justice is to give legal protection against and to prevent criminal actions. Working in close cooperation with the public they seek to discover and eliminate the roots of crime.

Public prosecutors, judges and lay judges hold public consultation hours free of charge, take part in enterprise and residential meetings, explain socialist law and the fundamental tasks of the administration of justice. In April 1963 the decree on the administration of justice issued by the Council of State was adopted by the People's Chamber. This decree determines the aims of the jurisdiction and administration of law in the present period. It was preceded by a nation-wide discussion lasting several months, in which more than two and a half million citizens participated. Almost 6,000 proposals and amendments were received as a result of this public discussion which thus helped to work out the final version.

Socialist administration of justice has not only to deal with and solve individual conflicts, but sees its principal aim in making its legal decisions socially effective. Prison sentences

that under the old system of justice played a predominant part are gradually receding into the background and new kinds of sentences with an educational purpose, such as the public reprimand, sentences without deprivation of liberty and reprieve, are gaining in significance. It is the duty of the organs for the administration of justice, members of the community in the residential areas and the work teams in the enterprises to see that every citizen who has served a sentence has a chance to re-enter the life of the community and find suitable employment. No citizen may be handicapped in his future career because he has served a sentence.

The National People's Army

A law passed by the People's Chamber in 1956 decreed the establishment of the National People's Army (NVA) to serve the purpose of defending our socialist state from imperialist invasion. It comprises land, air, air defence, naval armed forces (People's Navy) and frontier troops.

The defence legislation of the GDR came into existence from 1960 to 1962. In 1962 the People's Chamber passed a defence service law decreeing that those liable for military service should serve 18 months in the armed forces of national defence. Citizens who cannot reconcile armed service with their religious convictions are given the opportunity of serving in sapper units of the National People's Army.

The leadership of the National People's Army is in the hands of experienced and tested men from the working-class movement. 86 per cent of all officers come from workers' and farmers' families; many of them, including Army General Heinz Hoffmann, Minister of National Defence, Deputy Ministers Admiral Waldemar Verner, Lieutenant-General Heinz Kessler and other high-ranking officers of the National People's Army were active in the anti-fascist resistance struggle. More than 80 per cent of the regimental and divisional commanders received their training at military academies.

The National People's Army is linked in firm friendship with the armies of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states which are united under a central command through the Warsaw Pact. One of the deputy commanders-in-chief of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact states is Army General Heinz Hoffmann.



Karl-Marx-Allee in Berlin with the Moscow Restaurant.



Stralsund harbour and shipyard.



Warnemünde ferry harbour with the ferry-boat "Danmark".

View of the market place in Wernigerode in the Harz Mountains.





Chalk cliffs on the north coast of the Isle of Rügen.



The well-known Bastei Bridge in Saxon Switzerland.

The Right to Work

The right to work is the main basic right of every citizen of the GDR. It does not only mean the right to full employment and a job corresponding to the abilities and knowledge of the individual, but also includes the right to active participation in the planning, organisation and management of production. The Confederation of Free German Trade Unions is responsible for safeguarding the interests of all working people—including non-organised workers—at their place of work. It guarantees the personal, material and cultural interests of all working people, enforces the right of co-determination in the planning of production and the economy, sees to it that the socialist Labour Code is observed, and safeguards the right of equal pay for equal work, the right to education, leisure-time and recreation. The right of the FDGB to pursue its activities without interference is guaranteed by the Constitution, by law and by the state power. The FDGB is not an organ of state, however, but an independent social organisation.

The Confederation of Free German Trade Unions sponsored the great public discussion which preceded the parliamentary enactment of the Labour Code in 1961. More than seven million GDR citizens discussed the draft of this Code at 350,000 meetings and submitted over 23,000 amendments and proposals.

The working week in the GDR is limited by law to 45 hours. Every fortnight a five-day week is worked. A fortnight's notice must be given by workers and management alike. Dismissals can only be given with the consent of the trade union. Special protection against dismissal operates in the case of victims of fascist persecution, seriously disabled persons, pregnant women, sufferers from tuberculosis and elected trade union officials. A comprehensive system of labour safety regulations serves to safeguard the life and health of the working people.

Women

Women enjoy the same rights as men in the GDR. The legal basis for this is the Constitution, the Law on the Protection of Mother and Child and the Rights of Women passed on September 27, 1950, and the new socialist Family Code of December 20, 1965. The adoption of these principles has eliminated every form of discrimination against women in the GDR, ensuring them full political and economic equality. Women receive equal pay for equal work and are therefore financially independent. Married women enjoy the right to decide on their studies, careers and social activities. Women are offered the same

educational opportunities and vocational training as men. All women are entitled to hold public office. Many women hold high positions in the state apparatus and in industry. There are, for instance, three woman members of the State Council and three woman ministers. More than 25,000 working women are college graduates. They comprise 23.3 per cent of all college graduates. Some 120,000 women have had a vocational school training. Every fifth elected parliamentary deputy (People's Chamber and local assemblies) is a woman. More than 15,000 women's committees with some 85,000 members represent women's interests in further vocational training, in housing questions, in arranging nursery attendance for the children, etc. Parents are jointly responsible for the upbringing of their children. Unmarried mothers are protected by law from any form of discrimination.

Young People

Young people enjoy the complete confidence of the State and great tasks are entrusted to their full responsibility. The Youth Law which was adopted by the People's Chamber on May 4, 1964 after thorough discussion, guarantees young people the right to join in all discussions and to share the responsibility for decisions made in all spheres of public life and at their place of work. More than 22,000 members of the socialist youth organisation, the Free German Youth, aged between 21 and 25, are deputies and members of the standing commissions of the local assemblies. The youth organisation has its own parliamentary group in the People's Chamber. Horst Schumann, First Secretary of the Central Council of the Free German Youth is a member of the Council of State. Young people in the GDR have been entrusted with major construction projects. These include the construction of the central airport at Berlin-Schönefeld, the deep-sea port of Rostock and the mineral oil refinery at Schwedt. Young people receive equal pay for equal work. 628 million marks were allocated for vocational education in 1964. Young people are offered comprehensive opportunities for vocational training according to their abilities and interests.

Shorter hours of work and longer holidays are legally guaranteed for young people. In 1963 over 240 million marks were spent on extra-mural educational facilities and for leisure-time activities. About 220 youth club-houses are available to the young people for these purposes.

Religion

The Constitution of the GDR assures every citizen full freedom of religion and conscience. The Republic guarantees the free exercise of religious observance and protects church property. The Constitution also guarantees the right to form religious communities. There is no state church in the GDR. The confessional churches in the GDR—Evangelical, Roman Catholic and a total of 27 smaller denominations and creeds—enjoy the legal status of public corporations or associations. At present there are 120 convents in the GDR in which 3,000 nuns live. Clergymen and citizens bound by a confession support the humanist and peaceful aims of the government and State. The participation of religious circles in the entire life of the state is expressed by the fact, for example, that over 15,000 Christians are active as elected councillors; 56 clergymen were elected to parish, district and county councils. Dr. Martin Riesenburger, the Chief Rabbi who died in 1965, the Thuringian Bishop Dr. Moritz Mitzenheim and the professors of theology Fuchs, Herz and Leipoldt were awarded the Patriotic Order of Merit in Gold. Fruitful discussions often take place between prominent GDR statesmen and leading representatives of the various denominations.

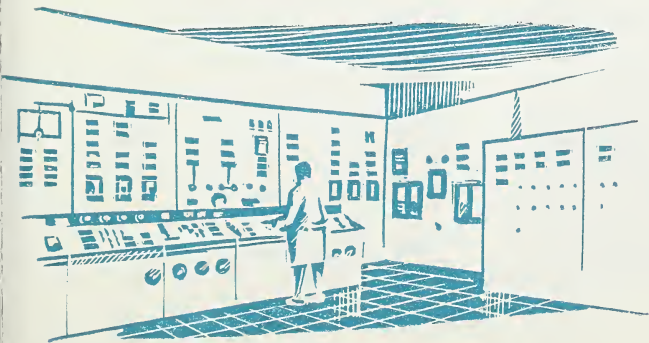
The churches and religious communities receive generous state funds which they themselves administer. State subsidies amounting to well over 12 million marks are allocated annually for the salaries of clergymen and for church administrative purposes



alone. The students at the six theological faculties receive state grants like all other students. Synagogues have been built for the Jewish communities which exist in many towns—in Berlin, Magdeburg, Erfurt and Karl-Marx-Stadt, for instance. More than ten million marks from state funds have been made available for the restoration of church buildings of historical value such as Magdeburg Cathedral, St. Hedwigs Cathedral and the Church of St. Mary in Berlin and the Cathedral (former Catholic Court Church) in Dresden. 196 Evangelical churches and 75 Roman Catholic churches have been newly built.

THE ECONOMY

The GDR, which has a highly developed industry and a modernly-profiled agriculture, is one of the ten most important industrial countries of the world. Industry accounts for 68.7 per cent of the total production. The starting point for industrial development after 1945 was as unfavourable as it could possibly be. The war had destroyed some 70 per cent of the machine engineering and 80 per cent of the metallurgical capacity on the territory of what is today the GDR. In addition to this the division of Germany tore asunder the historically formed unified economic area. This division resulted in the present GDR being separated from its raw material basis and from heavy engineering: there remained 30 per cent of the machine engineering capacity (in the main, light machine engineering), 8 per cent of the pig iron production and only 2 per cent of hard coal mining. There were also serious disproportions within the various branches of industry: for example, one third of German motor vehicle production was situated in the present GDR, but only one seventh of the sub-suppliers (factories producing tyres, motor parts, etc.) were on its territory. On the basis of this narrow raw materials and semi-products industry there came into being a relatively well-developed manufacturing industry. It was an important task for the development of the economy after 1945 to overcome the destruction caused by the war and to eliminate the disproportions caused by the division of the country. Already in 1950 industrial production had reached the 1936 level, although in 1946 it had sunk to 42 per cent of the figures for 1936. From 1950 to 1964 production figures rose by 268 per cent and



from 1964 to 1965 they rose by a further 6.1 per cent. Decisive for this growth was the fact that in those branches which are most important for a modern industry production rose more rapidly than the total production (in machine engineering from 1950 to 1964 by 328 per cent and in electrical engineering by 630 per cent).

By 1970 industrial production will have reached a value of 130,000 million marks; i. e., one and a half times that of the whole German Reich of 1936. Investments, which amounted to 16,400 million marks in 1963, are planned for a total of 30,000 million marks for 1970.

With the taking over of the factories into the hands of the people, the working people attained a new relationship to labour. One example of this change of attitude is the socialist emulation contest in the factories to fulfil and overfulfil the national economic plans. 1,625,432 people are competing in emulation contests for the title "Collective of Socialist Labour", and there are 33,769 working and study groups in which scientists and workers from the production line work together.

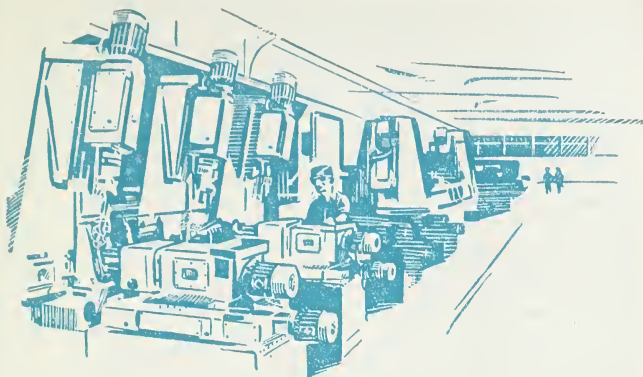
Industry

Every country has typical products for which it is known in the world. In the GDR these are, for example, machine tools, precision and optical engineering instruments, office machinery, Dresden china and textiles, including Plauen lace.

Favourable preconditions exist in the economy of the GDR for the chemical industry. In the per capita production of chemical products the GDR takes third place after the USA and France

PERSONS EMPLOYED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL BRANCH (December 1964)

Power	69,100	Precision and optical engineering	97,784
Mining	192,878	Wood and cultural articles	143,828
Metallurgy	107,855	Textiles industry	290,011
Chemical Industry	275,621	Clothing industry	105,515
Buildings materials	89,079	Leather goods industry	65,283
Heavy engineering	181,202	Paper industry	59,654
General engineering	200,974	Printing and allied industries	35,790
Vehicle construction	140,619	Glass and ceramics	66,194
Shipbuilding	38,115	Foodstuffs and allied industries	203,122
Foundries and forges	44,729		
Metal goods	89,269		
Electrical engineering	230,662		



in the world. Lignite (brown coal) is the most important raw material for the chemical industry and for power production in the GDR. More than one third of the lignite mined yearly in the world, 257 million tons, comes from the mines of the GDR, thus making this country the world's leading producer of lignite. Lignite is the base material for nitrogen fertilisers (Walter Ulbricht Leuna Works near Merseburg), synthetic rubber (VEB Chemical Works Buna), photographic film (VEB Filmfabrik ORWO Wolfen) and also for delicate fabrics manufactured from Dederon (the chemical fibre works at Guben and others). One of the most important large building projects in the GDR is the Black Pump Integrated Lignite Works in Cottbus County on which work was started in 1955; in the main this works produces electric power, briquettes and gas. In the Lower Lusatian Plain, which has large deposits of lignite, the first, and to date the only, lignite cokery in the world has been built. This cokery produces a million tons of metallurgical lignite coke a year.

During the next few years the petrochemical industry is to be greatly expanded. The basis for this expansion is the construction of the mineral oil refinery at Schwedt-on-the-Oder which is one of the four terminal points of the "Friendship" Oil Pipeline, the longest in the world. Since December 1963 crude oil has been flowing to the GDR from Kuibyshev in the USSR. In 1965 two million tons of crude oil were processed at Schwedt; in 1966 the second processing plant was taken into operation as a result of which it is now possible to process four million tons of crude oil annually. At the time of writing, pipelines are being laid from Schwedt to Rostock and to Leuna. The further working-up of the raw materials delivered from Schwedt will be carried out by the newly built Leuna II Chemical Works and other synthetic fibre works.

In industry, machine engineering, whose products account for more than half the GDR's total exports, plays an extremely important part. Highly productive, programme-controlled units giving a high degree of precision in the finished product enjoy a world-wide reputation. During recent years the construction of complete industrial plants has gained in importance. GDR specialists have great experience in the construction of chemical plant, in the fields of electrical engineering and electronics, in control engineering, and in the construction of processing plant and farming machinery.

Since 1957, the year the Central Institute of Nuclear Research at Rossendorf near Dresden started work, the use of radioactive isotopes has increased greatly. At present the research reactor at Rossendorf delivers 120 different radioactive preparations which are used by 200 scientific, medical and research institutions. A part of the radioactive isotope production is exported.

In the GDR the specialisation of production is taking place on the basis of a planned division of labour according to the agreements made in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and its standing committees. In the first instance those branches of industry which are decisive for the development tempo of the whole of the national economy and which offer the necessary conditions for a more rapid increase in labour productivity will be promoted. These are, above all, the chemical, electrical engineering and electronics, the machine tool and processing machinery industries.

The measures which determine the motive force of the national economy over a period of several years are worked out by the State Planning Commission and fixed in a long-term plan. The main points underlying the long-term plan are:

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF SELECTED PRODUCTS:

	1936	1950	1964
Electric power (million Kwh.)	14,000	19,466	51,032
Raw lignite (1,000 tons)	101,056	137,050	256,926
Potash salts (1,000 tons K ₂ O)	953	1,336	1,857
Ingot steel (1,000 tons)	1,199	998	3,852
Television receivers (per unit)	—	—	591,154
Electric motors, a/c (per unit)	—	116,312	471,870
Excavators (per unit)	—	103	701
PVC powder (tons)	—	21,636	102,765
Synthetic rubber (tons)	—	39,804	93,693

Increasing production in those branches of industry whose products are capable of competing on the world market;
The most economically effective and rapid taking into operation of the latest research results;

The full exploitation of all available funds and reserves.

The national economic plans contain the detailed tasks for the current year. The industrial ministries, the Associations of Nationally-owned Enterprises (VVB) and the individual enterprises themselves work out detailed yearly plans within the framework of the coefficients contained in the main plan. The VVBs and the enterprises have a fairly free hand in realising the targets set in the plans—the better and bigger the initiative they develop, the better the plan fulfilment. An important element of planning in the GDR is the active cooperation of the working people in working out the plans for the nationally-owned enterprises and their right of co-determination in the management. To ensure the steady proportional development of the national economy it is necessary to supplement the scientifically based central planning with a well-coordinated system of economic incentives (wage forms, bonuses, industrial prices, etc.) thus promoting the initiative of all working people.

In 1963 the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party and the Council of Ministers held an economic conference which discussed a number of measures aimed at a better management of the national economy. These measures soon became known as the "New Economic System of Planning and Management".

At its eleventh meeting in December 1965 the Central Committee of the SED, proceeding from the practical experiences gained from this new system and building up on the good results it has brought to date, resolved to introduce the second phase of the New Economic System. These results are, in part, indicated by the following figures:

Growth of the national income from 1964 to 1965	4.7 per cent
Increase in labour productivity in industry	6.5 per cent
Growth in goods production	7.0 per cent

The principal features of the second phase of the New Economic System of Planning and Management may be characterised as follows:

1. The long-term planning must include in its calculations those variants for the carrying through of the technical revolution which secure the highest possible growth of the national income, for it is this growth alone that provides the funds for increased investments and the raising of the standard of living.
2. The self-contained system of economic levers is to be extended and improved with the aim of materially interesting to a still higher degree the Associations of Nationally-owned Enterprises (VVB), the individual enterprises themselves and the working people in their own particular contribution to the growth of the national income.

3. In order to rapidly raise productivity in certain branches of industry, modern machinery and other means of rationalisation are to be imported from both the socialist and the capitalist countries.
4. The industrial price reform that has already been started is to be completed; the producers animated to raising output figures whilst lowering the necessary costs and the receiver firms stimulated to rational stock-holding and storage by the introduction of a price system that corresponds exactly to the actual costs involved for the national economy.
5. In future, investments in industry and agriculture are either to be financed from the profits of the individual enterprise, or the investment credit granted by the state is to be repaid from these profits.
This will bring about the most effective use of the finances which have to be accrued and an increase in the initiative of the individual enterprise.
6. The annual bonus is to be introduced step by step as the main form of reward and is to be linked to the socialist emulation contest in the most suitable and effective manner. In this way the employees will be led to an even bigger participation in the fulfilment of the tasks of the enterprise and the control of the yearly plan.

Owners of Craft Enterprises, Industrial Enterprises and Retail Traders

The owners of craft enterprises, private industrial enterprises and retail trading undertakings have a guaranteed existence in the GDR. They give voluntary help in appropriate forms in building up the country. In order to utilise technical innovations to the best advantage, to intensify the mechanisation of work and to increase labour productivity more rapidly, many craftsmen have joined together to form craft cooperatives (PGH) in which masters and journeymen are members with equal rights. There were 4,172 craft cooperatives in 1964. The total production of craft enterprises with a maximum of ten employees increased from 4,400 million marks in 1950 to about 11,500 million marks in 1964: the craft cooperatives had a total production of 4,380 million marks in 1964. In addition there are about 11,000 private industrial enterprises with some 507,000 employees in the GDR. More than half these enterprises (6,271 in 1964) work with state participation. The former owners are present partners of these enterprises (limited partnerships) receive additional funds from the state for investments and can thus attain a faster increase of productivity and higher profits. The profit is distributed according to the proportion of capital participation. In 1964 enter-

prises with state participation had a total production of about 8,000 million marks. Many of these enterprises and craft cooperatives make important contributions to the economy as suppliers of goods for export and for the nationally-owned sector of industry. In the same way as the craft and privately-owned industrial enterprises, retail trade flourishes in the GDR. In 1964 the proportion of private retail trade in the total retail trade turnover was some 22 per cent.

Retail Trade Turnover

increased from 17,300 million marks in 1950 to 49,000 million marks in 1964. In the GDR the retail prices of all goods are fixed by the state and may not be exceeded. Offences against the price regulations are punished with fines.

WAGES AND THE STANDARD OF LIVING

The average earnings of production and office workers increased from 459 marks in 1955 to 618 marks in 1964. Savings deposits per head of the population rose from 256 marks in 1955 to 1,488 in 1964.

A further proof of the steadily rising standard of living in the GDR is the per capita consumption of important foodstuffs.

	1955	1964
Sugar and sugar products (kilogrammes)	27.4	30.7
Butter (kilogrammes)	9.5	12.6
Meat and meat products (kilogrammes)	45.0	58.0
Eggs	116.0	205.0

The following durable consumer goods (per 1,000) were sold to the population:

	1958	1963	1964
Refrigerators	48.4	212.3	275.0
Washing machines	30.0	291.7	321.9
Television receivers	172.9	540.3	516.1
Cars	31.7	58.8	62.7

In 1964, 75,600 new dwellings ready for occupation were handed over to the population; of these, 77 per cent have built-in kitchens.

RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED PRODUCTS

Rye bread (1,000 grammes)	0.52 marks	Gents suit, two-piece, single-breasted, 50 per cent worsted yarn wool	143.— marks
Wheat bread (1,000 grammes)	1.— marks	Ladies dress, cotton, medium quality	52.— marks
Lemons (1,000 grammes)	5.— marks	Household refrigerator (60 litre)	999.— marks
Beef (1,000 grammes)	9.80 marks	Domestic gas (per cubic metre)	0.16 marks
Pork chops (1,000 grammes)	8.— marks	Domestic electricity per Kwh.	0.08 marks
Sugar (1,000 grammes)	1.64 marks	Rent per sq. metre	0.60—1.10 marks
Fat liver sausage (1,000 grammes)	6.20 marks	Railway fare, 2nd class (local train per kilometre)	0.08 marks
Salted herrings (1,000 grammes)	1.76 marks	Tram fare (journey)	0.15—0.20 marks
Butter (1,000 grammes)	10.— marks		
Unskimmed milk (litre)	0.68 marks		

The picture of the actual standard of living in the GDR is rounded off by those things that are not in the pay packet: the benefits of the social and health services available for every citizen, the holiday amenities and facilities, free education and many other things. More detailed information about these can be read in the corresponding sections of this booklet.

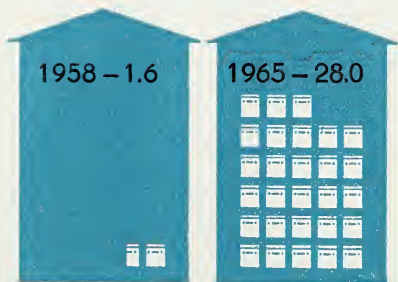
Average monthly expenditure of a household (two adults and two children) in per cent:

- 41.9 foodstuffs, beverages and related articles
- 11.9 shoes, textiles and clothing
- 15.8 other items, including books, newspapers, periodicals, musical instruments, furniture, household appliances, articles of hygiene and pharmaceuticals
- 11.9 services and repairs, including theatre, concert, cinema, public transport, rent, electricity, gas and heating
- 18.5 other expenditure (insurance, taxes, savings, etc.)



48 per cent of all households owned a television set in 1965.

Owners of washing machines per 100 households in the GDR



Agriculture and Forestry

About two thirds of the total area of the GDR is used for agricultural purposes. Of this area about 76 per cent is farming land, 21 per cent is pasture land and over 1 per cent is used for market gardening and fruit growing. 27 per cent of the territory of the GDR is wooded, these areas being mainly concentrated in the mountainous regions in the south and in the heathlands surrounding Berlin. The timber requirements of the GDR can only be met to about 78 per cent from domestic sources, but forestry is nevertheless carried on intensively with the aim of raising the proportion of domestic products as compared with imports.

Farming in the GDR is carried on intensively on the cooperative and State farms with the aid of well-developed, high-performance machines and implements. Crop rotation is usual in the GDR. Corresponding to the climatic conditions (the GDR is situated in a temperate zone influenced by both maritime and continental climates) and the soil (mainly sand and loam) the main crops are rye and potatoes, but wheat, oats, barley, sugar beet, oil-seeds, hemp, a wide range of fodder plants, fruit and vegetables are also grown. The main farming areas are to be found in the three northern counties of Schwerin, Rostock and Neubrandenburg and in parts of the central and southern countries of Magdeburg, Halle, Erfurt, Leipzig and Dresden. Market gardening and fruit growing are concentrated chiefly in the Oderbruch district in Frankfurt (Oder) County, in parts of the Thuringian Basin in Erfurt County, in the Börde in Magdeburg County, round Werder in Potsdam County and viniculture is carried on along the River Unstrut in Halle County and near Meissen in Dresden County.

The ratio of stock farming to crop farming varies in different parts of the country. The northern and the sub-alpine regions offer the most favourable conditions for stock farming because of their high proportion of pasture land. Livestock figures per 100 hectares of farming land in the GDR were 73.5 head of cattle and 137.5 pigs in 1964.

Agricultural production has been doubled in the GDR in the past fifteen years. This is primarily the result of the voluntary joining together of the farmers into cooperative farms (LPG) that took place between 1962 and 1960. They recognised that individual farming no longer had the reserves necessary to increase agricultural production to any extent and that only modern large-area farming could provide the food supplies to satisfy the rising standard of living of the entire population. Today 85.6 per cent of the farming land is cultivated by the cooperative farms, the remainder is cultivated by the State farms, horticultural cooperatives, etc.

There are three types of cooperative farm: in Type I only the



arable land is brought into the cooperative, in Type II draught animals, tractors, farm machines and implements are brought in as well. In Type III the farmer brings his arable and meadow land, woodlands, all livestock and fixtures (buildings, machines, etc.). In every case the farming land utilised by the cooperative remains the farmer's own property. In Types II and III, livestock, machines and implements become cooperative property. In Type III cooperative farms the general members' meeting, the highest organ of the cooperative, assesses the obligatory inventory contribution that every farmer joining this type of farm has to make, either in cash or in stock. The amount exceeding the compulsory contribution that the farmer brings into the cooperative is either repaid to him according to its worth or is considered as a loan on which interest is payable.

The general members' meeting—whatever the type of cooperative farm—approves the farm's Statute, confirms production and financial plans and the farm's regulations; it also elects the management and auditing committees which may be requested to render account at any time. To put it very briefly, the members themselves decide on the future of their cooperative farm.

The process of gradually adopting the comprehensive principles of socialist planning in farming goes hand in hand with the employment of industrial methods and is also expressed in the division of labour and in the many forms of co-production between individual cooperative farms.

From year to year more modern machines have been made available for the farming industry. By the end of 1964 it had some 117,700 tractors, 13,800 combine harvesters, 8,800 potato planting machines and 5,000 beet combines. The total value of the machine park of the farming industry at present amounts to

some 7,500 million marks, or machines and implements representing an original value of 1,000 marks for every hectare.

Under the conditions of cooperative farming there is a high coefficient of effectivity for the use of the machines, 150 hectares of grain being harvested, for instance by each combine harvester. Co-production will enable an even greater degree of mechanisation.

In 1964 457,000 hectares of land received avio-chemical treatment by the Interflug Airline. Investments per hectare of farming land amount to 1,700 marks.

The development of the cooperative movement in farming has brought about a major change in conditions in the country. The cooperative farmers who have a greater opportunity to further their scientific and cultural education are now the determining factors in the villages. Thousands of farmers study at evening courses and thus obtain their skilled workers' certificate or their State Farmers' Diploma. The best of them can study at the Cooperative Farm College at Meissen. Many former farm-workers or small farmers who have studied and possess the confidence of the members of their cooperative farm, are today using the knowledge they have gained of modern agricultural methods to manage large-area farming enterprises successfully. The women farmers, too, are continually improving their knowledge and occupy positions of management.

By 1964 the number of cooperative farmers with college education rose to 3,540, with trade school education to 15,746, with the State Farmers' Diploma to 23,343 and with the agricultural skilled workers' certificate to 124,885.

Houses of culture, theatre subscriptions, village clubs, rural central libraries, radio and particularly the GDR Television Service provide facilities for overcoming the age-old cultural backwardness of rural life.

1. Flag of the German Democratic Republic
2. Standard of the Chairman of the State Council of the GDR
3. Merchant ensign of the GDR
4. Ensign of the People's National Army
5. Ensign of the People's Navy



1



2



3

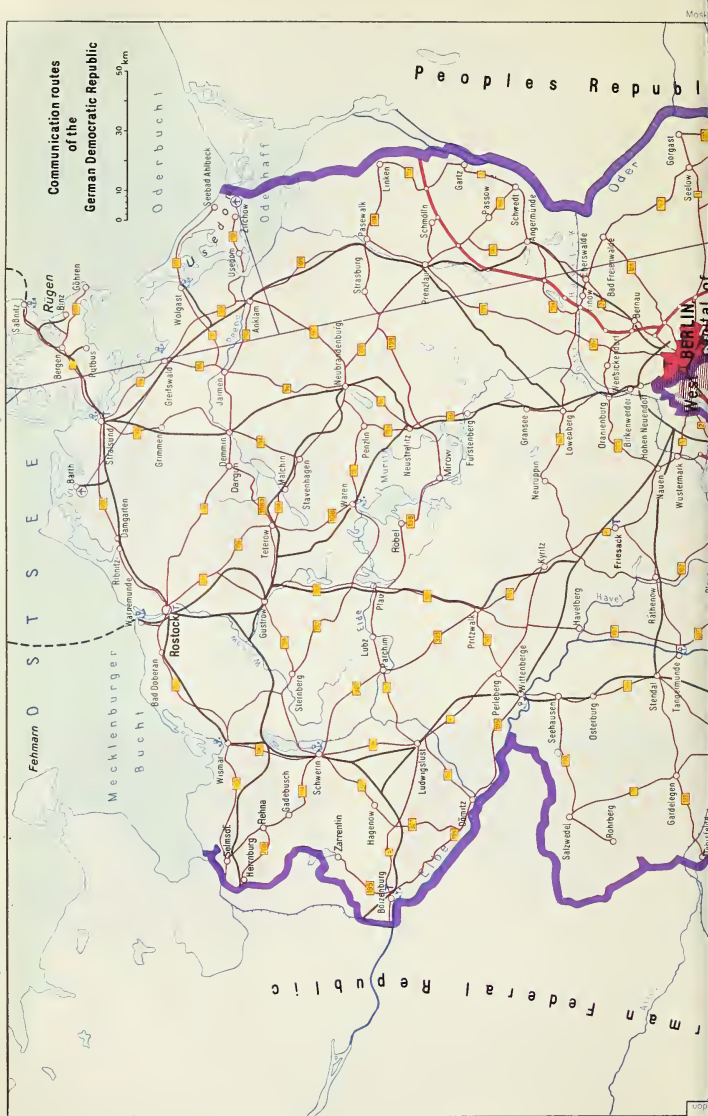


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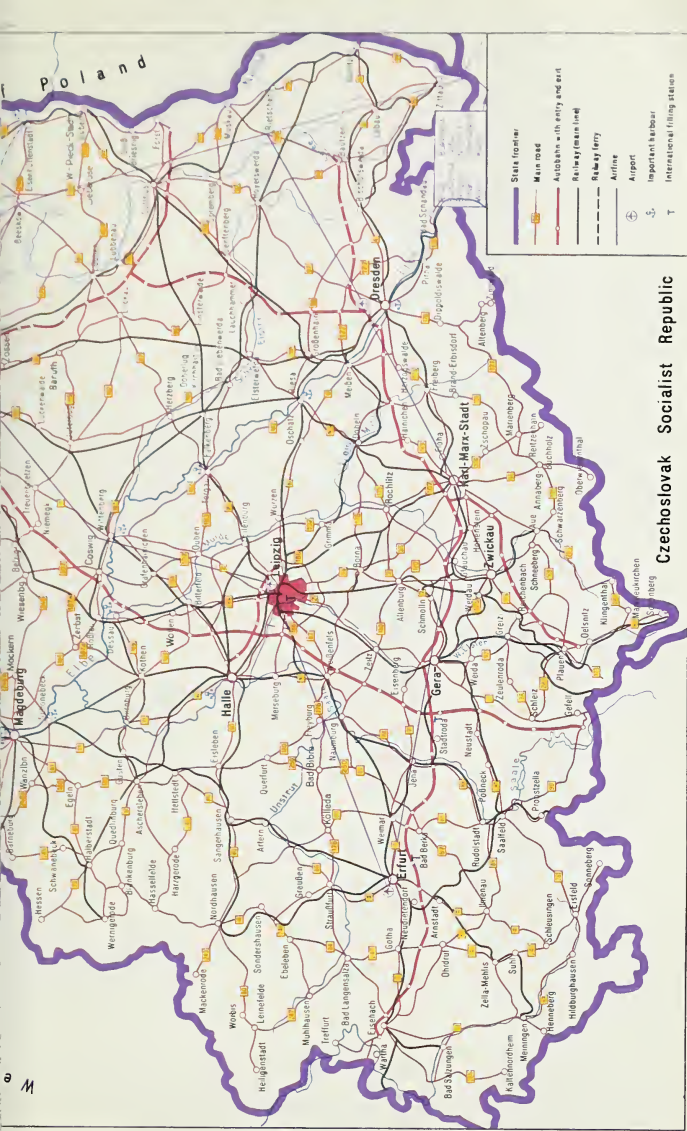
5

Communication routes of the German Democratic Republic



Peoples Republic

German Federal Republic



- State frontier
- Main road
- Autobahn with entry and exit
- Railway main line
- Railway ferry
- Airline
- Airport
- Important suburban international filling station
- International filling station

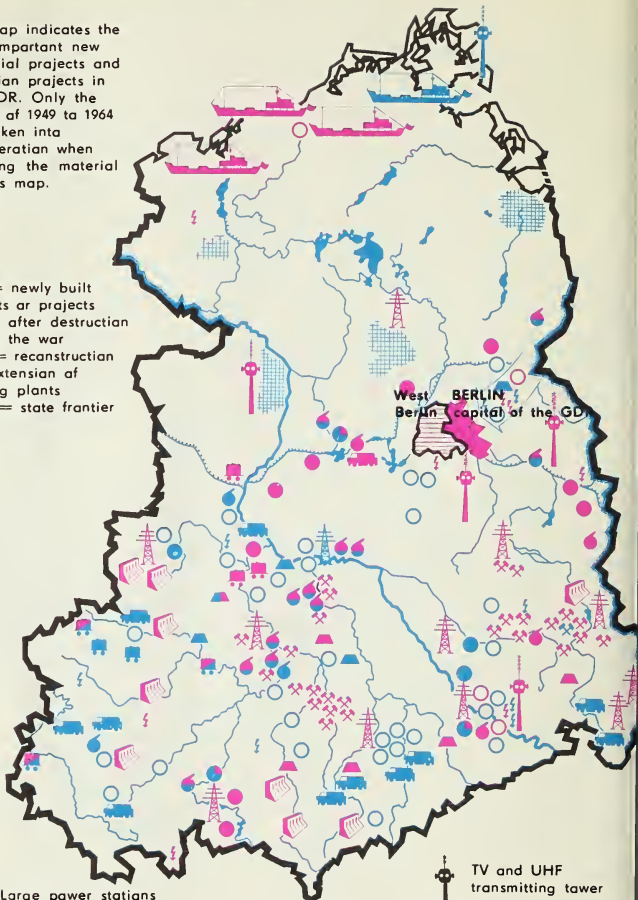
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

W




GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC





Our map indicates the most important new industrial projects and extension projects in the GDR. Only the period of 1949 to 1964 was taken into consideration when selecting the material for this map.






Red = newly built projects or projects rebuilt after destruction during the war
 Blue = reconstruction and extension of existing plants
 Black = state frontier



West Berlin capital of the GDR

-  Large power stations and central transformer stations
-  Dams and long-distance water conservancy installations
-  Lignite mine and briquetting work
-  Motor works, automobile, tractor and lacamative manufacture

-  Patash works
-  Shipyard
-  Ameliation area
-  Chemical industry and crude oil refinery

-  TV and UHF transmitting tower
-  Non-ferrous metallurgical plant
-  Electrical engineering industry
-  Heavy engineering, machine tool and appliances
-  Steel and rolling mill



Currency of the German Democratic Republic: all coins and notes from 1 pfennig to 100 marks.

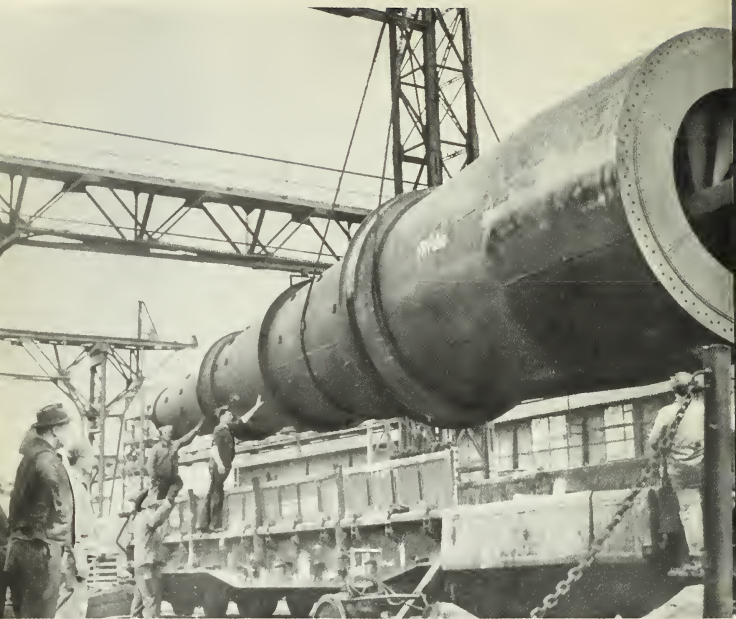


The GDR's most modern synthetic fibre works in Wilhelm-Pieck-Stadt Guben (Cottbus County) manufactures Dederon silk of the highest quality.

The 45-metre high conveyor bridge of the Klettwitz Open-cast Lignite Mine, Lower Lusatia.

View of the control room of the "Black Pump" Integrated Lignite Works in Cottbus County.





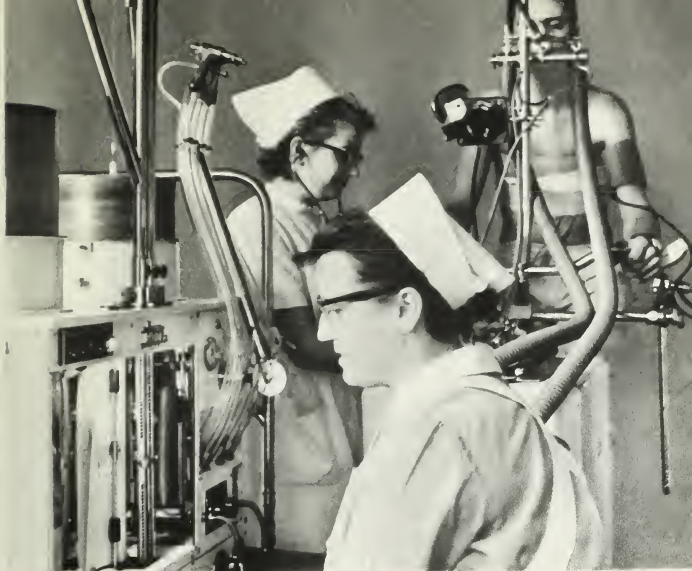
The swivel column of the RS 560 caterpillar swivel excavator, built by the "Georgi Dimitrov" Heavy Engineering Works Leipzig, being loaded at the start of its journey to Poland.



One of the quays with 3.2-ton cranes in Rostock's new deep-sea harbour.

The world-famous porcelain manufactory at Meissen, where Dresden China is made, is more than 250 years old. Here an artist is putting the finishing touches to a shepherd group after Acier (1760).





*Spirographic lung test
at the new miners' hospital
in Gera.*



*Asthma patients under-
going a course of treat-
ment on the high seas
aboard the FDGB holiday
ship "Völkerfreundschaft".*



Afternoon in the Opera Cafe on Unter den Linden, Berlin.

Sunbathing on the beaches of the Baltic Coast.



LEVEL OF MECHANISATION IN PERCENTAGE OF HARVESTING AREA:

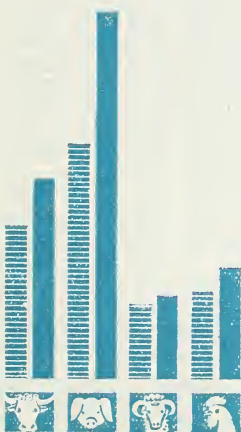
	1958	1962	1964
Mowing and threshing with combine harvester	18.4	50.7	67.0
Potato picking with potato harvester	6.8	27.1	29.0
Beet harvest	18.6	72.1	86.0

YIELDS ACCORDING TO CROP IN DECITONS PER HECTARE:

	1946	1964
Grain	14.8	27.0
Oil-seeds	8.3	14.3
Potatoes	135.3	172.8
Sugar beet	203.2	261.3

Cattle farming on a cooperative basis leads to better results too, as modern methods and machines can be employed. The market production of slaughtered animals rose from 1955 to 1964 from 870,300 tons to 1,199,000 tons and the milk yield rose from 3,301,000,000 litres to 5,084,800,000 litres (3.5 per cent fat content).

LIVESTOCK IN UNITS OF 1,000



	1934/38	1965
Cattle	3,653	4,762.3
Pigs	5,706	8,877.8
Sheep	1,763	1,963.0
Poultry (laying hens only)	21,619	26,008.5

FOREIGN TRADE

The GDR has a large volume of export and import trade. It maintains trade relations with more than 100 countries, among them with 48 states on the basis of official trade agreements. In 1964 its foreign trade turnover amounted to 23,000 million exchange marks.

Of special importance are the agreements on government level that were concluded with all socialist countries and also with Finland, India, the UAR, Guinea, Burma, Indonesia, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. The GDR transacts the greatest part of its foreign trade (about 76 per cent) with the countries of the socialist world market, the USSR being the principal trading partner. A new long-term trade agreement was concluded between the Soviet Union and the GDR on December 3, 1965. The Soviet Union supplies rolled steel and non-ferrous metals, crude oil, other raw materials and electronic components. In accordance with its industrial profile the GDR exports primarily products of the machine engineering industry and chemical plant to the Soviet Union.

More than half of GDR exports, which amount to a total of 12,250 million exchange marks, comes from the metal-working industry. Exports from this branch of industry have increased tenfold since 1950. Of special importance is the export of complete industrial plants. The construction of integrated textile works, power stations, cement factories, sugar refineries and other projects by GDR industry is of great assistance for the emergent states of Africa and Asia in developing their own national economies. Between 1954 and 1964 the GDR supplied 12 large-scale integrated works, over 600 industrial plants, over 400, partial plants and production flow lines and more than 800 small industrial plants to a total of 70 countries. The volume of trade with the European capitalist countries has also increased. The main imports of the GDR are raw materials, foodstuffs, semi-finished and finished products. Technical equipment and complete plant also play an important role.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE GDR (goods turnover in million exchange marks)

Year	Total Trade	Trade with socialist countries	Trade with other foreign countries	Trade with West Germany	Trade with West Berlin
1960	18,313.3	13,698.2	2,737.4	1,552.9	324.8
1964	23,203.6	17,745.4	3,290.8	1,674.9	492.5



Leipzig Fair

The Leipzig Fair is of great importance for GDR foreign trade. In 1965 the 800th anniversary of the Fair was celebrated. It has developed from the Fair of the Middle Ages to the international centre of present-day East-West trade. It is held twice a year, in the spring as a technical and consumer goods fair and in the autumn as consumer goods fair only. It is the only large international Fair which has been able to maintain its traditions almost completely unimpaired over several centuries. Its character of universality with 60 branch groups corresponds to its special nature as intermediary between East and West. The Spring Fair with the Technical Fair has been held in Leipzig since 1920. The Leipzig Fair has continually gained in popularity since the Second World War. This is shown by the number of countries participating, the exhibition area, the volume of trade concluded and the number of visitors and exhibitors. The Fair has a significance beyond that of the exhibition of goods and business activity. In Leipzig government delegations, members of parliament and representatives of both world systems meet for deliberations on economic cooperation; scientists and technicians of world repute make use of the facilities offered by Leipzig to exchange views and debate their problems. This centre of world trade is a meeting-place for the socialist, capitalist and emergent states, where they can practise peaceful cooperation without discrimination for their mutual benefit.



Transport

The GDR's main transport service is the Deutsche Reichsbahn (GDR State Railway). Its lines have a total length of 16,160 kilometres of which almost 1,000 kilometres are electrified. There are 14.9 kilometres of railway lines per 100 sq. kilometres. The GDR is thus second only to Belgium in world railway-line density. In 1965 the State Railway transported 260.4 million tons out of a total of 624.8 million tons. The total length of the road network is 45,530 kilometres and that of navigable inland waterways 2,518 kilometres. The total tonnage of the merchant fleet numbering 127 ships was about 800,000 dwt., in 1965. The Interflug Airline of the GDR maintains 12 inland flight routes and 13 abroad. It cooperates with 44 foreign airline companies. In 1965 419,000 persons travelled by the Interflug Airline. In Schönefeld near Berlin a new intercontinental airport for heavy jet aircraft has been built.

THE SOCIAL SERVICES

The GDR has developed a system of health and social services which has won international recognition. The health insurance system covering sickness, old age and accident insurance is administered by the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions. Insurance is compulsory for all production and office workers. They pay a contribution of 10 per cent of their gross earnings with a maximum of 60 marks per month. Another 10 per cent is paid by the employer. University, college and trade school students and pensioners are insured without having to pay contributions.

Insurance benefits are the greatest ever granted in Germany. They include free medical treatment until the complete recovery of the patient and free prophylactic and health-promoting measures. All medicaments, remedies and aids as well as medical care and hospitalisation are free of charge and are also granted to the members of the insured person's family without any time limitation. Special remedial treatment under medical supervision at homes specially maintained for this purpose is also free of charge. Sick persons unfit for work receive sick pay from the first day of their absence from work for a period of 26 weeks. In addition they receive wage equalisation payments from their place of employment for six weeks within a calendar year. The two payments together amount to 90 per cent of their net incomes. In the case of accidents at work 90 per cent of the net income of the person concerned is paid until he is fit for work again. Further cash benefits of the social insurance system are house and pocket money as well as maternity and death grants.

MATERNITY CASES FREE OF CHARGE

The extension of the network of hospitals and of social welfare measures made it possible that 95.5 per cent of all births took place in maternity clinics with up-to-date medical equipment in 1964.

SPECIAL CURE AND HEALTH RESORTS

The GDR has over 440 health resorts, including spas, with a total of 202 sanatoria and convalescent homes. In 1964 they accommodated over 340,000 patients, whose treatment was free of charge. 125.8 million marks from state funds and 126 million marks from health insurance funds were allocated for this purpose.

There is a state grant for every child born, consisting of 500 marks for the first child, 600 marks for the second, 700 marks for the third, 850 marks for the fourth and 1,000 marks for every further child. A state children's allowance of 20 marks a month each is paid for the first, second and third child, 40 marks a month for the fourth child and 45 marks for every additional child.

The Health Services

In 1964 over 3,000 million marks were spent on health services. There is a comprehensive welfare service for mother and child. 87 per cent of all expectant mothers have consultations at the mothers' welfare centres between the first and fourth month of their pregnancy and these centres continue to watch over the health of the mothers-to-be until their children are born. In October 1963 the Government of the GDR decreed that pregnancy and maternity leave on full pay should be extended to 14 weeks. The GDR has one of the lowest infant and mother mortality rates in the world. In 1965 the mortality rate was 8 mothers and 250 infants for every 10,000 live births.

At the end of 1964, 771 hospitals with 206,186 beds were available for the population, i.e. 121 beds for every 10,000 inhabitants. In addition there were 399 polyclinics and 858 outpatient dispensaries, of which 215 were enterprise outpatient dispensaries. The medical services for the rural population were improved in particular; there were only 136 rural outpatient dispensaries in 1950 as compared with 379 in 1964. There are 115 doctors and 36 dentists per 100,000 inhabitants in the GDR.

**STATE EXPENDITURE FOR HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE GDR**
(in million marks) :





Annual X-ray screenings, which are compulsory by law, and other effective measures have reduced tuberculosis to a minimum. In 1963 there were only 11 cases of tuberculosis per 10,000 inhabitants. The GDR has the lowest tuberculosis infant mortality in the world. The World Health Organisation of the United Nations described its measures to combat tuberculosis as being exemplary.

The GDR succeeded in eliminating the dreaded disease of poliomyelitis by means of an immunisation action. Special measures are being taken against diabetes and tumour diseases.

The German Red Cross Society in the GDR, founded in 1952, is a member of the League of Red Cross Societies. It has 1,200,000 members and friends. Its chief task is to train as many people as possible in first aid. Further important humanitarian services of this organisation are the provision of ambulances, the Mountain Rescue Service, the Water Rescue Service and work in the 3,966 First Aid Stations and in numerous groups for the propagation of social hygiene. The German Red Cross Society has given active help to many countries in which catastrophes occurred.



Holidays and Recreation

Special attention is given to providing holiday and recreational facilities. Every worker receives an adequate paid holiday that is guaranteed by law (12 to 24 days according to the nature of the employment, the responsibility and the duration of employment in one enterprise or branch of industry). 1,100,000 citizens received the opportunity to spend their holidays in the traditional holiday resorts of the GDR through the holiday service of the trade unions in 1964. In the same year the Travel Bureau of the GDR arranged 208,000 inland journeys (not counting short trips) and 465,746 journeys to other socialist countries. A stay of 13 days in one of the trade union holiday homes with their modern and comfortable accommodation is very cheap; for trade union members earning up to 500 marks a month, for instance, it costs 50 marks, up to 750 marks income, 62.50 marks and up to 1,000 marks, 75 marks for full board and lodging; holidays spent in these homes in the spring and autumn are about 20 per cent cheaper. In addition every holiday-maker who is a member of the trade union is entitled to a railway fare reduction of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent and to a reduction of 10 per cent if he uses the Interflug Airline for one journey every year. In recent years the FDGB holiday ships "Völkerfreundschaft" and "Fritz Heckert" offer workers, office employees and professional people facilities for ocean cruises. Such journeys are frequently subsidised to a considerable extent by the enterprise where the holiday-maker is employed and by the trade union. Camping sites and bungalow villages especially built for holiday-makers have been established in the most attractive regions of the GDR. Under the auspices of the trade unions many thousands of working people have joined parties of tourists spending their holidays in the other socialist countries.

There are 317 youth hostels and hiking quarters with a total of some 20,000 beds in the GDR, in which schoolchildren, students and apprentices are provided with sleeping accommodation for 25 pfennigs a night. About 800,000 children spend their annual summer holidays in the enterprise holiday camps.



A winter holiday in the Thuringian Forest.



The Red Damask Room in the New Palais at Potsdam.

A scene from Sergei Prokoviev's ballet "Romeo and Juliet" at the Municipal Opera House, Leipzig.





The centre of Meissen (County Dresden). In the background the Castle and Cathedral.

EDUCATION

After 1945 a democratic school reform was begun on the territory of what is today the GDR, having as its legal basis the "Law on the Democratization of German Schools". All teachers influenced by Nazi and militaristic ideas were removed from the schools, the propagation of enmity between nations and racial hatred was banned from the educational system. For the first time in German history the educational privilege was broken and in the following years all children received the benefit of comprehensive educational facilities. In accordance with the new tasks and trends of development in the national economy, in science and technology and in all other spheres of social life, the Sixth Party Congress of the Socialist Unity Party, held in January 1963 demanded the development of a unified socialist educational system that guaranteed the education of highly trained experts and patriotic citizens, by integrating the general, polytechnical and vocation training to an entity of a new quality. Two years later, after a nation-wide public discussion, the People's Chamber enacted the "Law on the Integrated Socialist Education System". The main purpose of the present developments in the educational sphere is the step-by-step transformation to this integrated system, which gives every citizen the possibility of making his way from one stage of the system to the next higher stage, right up to the universities and colleges.



The integrated system of education is divided into:

- the pre-school educational establishments
- the ten-form general polytechnical high schools
- trade and vocational schools
- the educational establishments leading to university entrance exam (Abitur)
- the engineering and other vocational colleges
- universities and colleges
- the special schools for children suffering from physical and mental handicaps.

A ten-year period of general high school education is compulsory for all children who have reached their sixth birthday. Schooling is free of charge and, in cases where it is necessary, the state bears the cost of educational materials and grants financial assistance for educational purposes.

The parents' committees which are elected by the parents at all schools have the right of co-decision on all educational questions.

The keystone of the integrated socialist education system is the polytechnical high school. Its most notable new characteristic is polytechnical education and training. It teaches the children to respect labour, gives them an up-to-date general education and enables them to make a responsible decision on their future careers.

In the seventh to the tenth form the pupils gain a basic knowledge of machines, technology and economy through working in industrial and agricultural enterprises on one day in the week and through the subject "Introduction to the socialist production

DAY AND WEEK NURSERY SCHOOLS



Number 7,521 Places 295,000 Expenditure 170 million marks



Number 9,674 Places 414,118 Expenditure 285 million marks

process". In the ninth and tenth forms a basic vocational training is gradually being introduced. The pupils of the extended polytechnical high schools (eleventh and twelfth forms) receive full vocational training so that they can conclude this stage of their education with the university entrance examination (Abitur) and a skilled worker's certificate.

The rural schools have made particularly great advances since 1946. In the GDR the one-form schools and the village schools that provided little specialised education have been abolished. A dense network of central schools (rural high schools attended by children from the surrounding villages) was established. These schools have been expanded into ten-form polytechnical high schools in the same way as the schools in towns.

Apprentices have fourteen hours of instruction a week at a vocational school. They can sit for their university entrance exam (Abitur) at the conclusion of their three years' vocational training. Factory and village academies and the courses at the People's Colleges (evening school) enable many adults to obtain the necessary education to sit for their university or trade school entrance examination.

Universities, Colleges and Trade Schools

In 1964 more than 111,000 students were enrolled at the 44 universities and colleges of the GDR. The number of university, college and trade school students is 149 per 10,000 of the population. The largest universities are the Humboldt University in Berlin with the Charité University Clinic, the Karl Marx University in Leipzig and the Technical University in Dresden. In 1964 some 6,500 marks were spent on every university or college student.

In 1964 51.2 per cent of full-time students at the universities and colleges were children of workers and farmers. Attendance at universities and colleges is free of charge. In addition about 95 per cent of all students receive state grants. Many young people from about 60 countries and from all continents who are enrolled at the universities and colleges of the GDR study under the same conditions as their German friends.

At present there are in the GDR 212 trade schools covering 75 main branches in the engineering, economic, medical and artistic fields. About 129,000 students are receiving their training at these institutions. In 1964 the state spent about 2,500 marks for each of these students.

Of great significance for the further education of working people are university, college and trade school correspondence and evening courses that can be taken by employed people without giving up their jobs. The enterprises must grant students attending such courses the necessary time off from work without

any loss of earnings and must give them every possible assistance. In 1964 about 29,000 students successfully completed courses of this nature and some 33,000 students commenced correspondence courses.

The universities, colleges and trade schools participate directly in the priority research and development assignments of the national economy. Corresponding agreements are concluded with the enterprises, the associations of nationally-owned enterprises and other institutions. Scientists and practitioners form socialist work and research teams. The practice is growing of giving students the subjects for their examinations from the enterprises themselves; the students must then defend their theses before the enterprise's experts. This all helps to connect research and educational work closely with practical application in the economy.

Centres of science and research in the GDR are the German Academy of Sciences and the German Academy of Agricultural Sciences (both in Berlin), the Saxon Academy of Sciences in Leipzig and the Leopoldina Natural Science Academy in Halle. In addition to these there are many scientific institutes which are connected with organs of state and large enterprises of the nationally-owned economy. The scientific activity and research work which is concentrated on certain priority aspects in connection with the more rapid development of industry and agriculture is guided by the State Secretariate for Research and Technology and the Research Council of the GDR in accordance with the plan for research and technology. The Research Council also fixes long-term plans for the construction of new research centres and for the building of new scientific institutes. In 1964 the state budget of the GDR allocated 1,300 million marks for science alone (research not included).

CULTURAL LIFE

The anti-fascist and democratic transformation that began after 1945 on the territory of the present GDR embraced all facets of cultural life as well. For the first time in German history the mass of the people were able to enjoy unrestricted access to all the treasures of humanist world culture. The party of the working class, the SED, and the Government of the GDR have given the greatest attention to the development of a democratic—and later socialist—national culture in all its phases.

A whole system of state and social institutions has been established for the fostering and development of a new cultural life for the people. For a high standard of culture is one of the characteristics implicit in the development of an all-round educated socialist personality. The main evidence for this is shown in the initiative developed by the working people themselves in their participation in cultural activities. Professional artists, on the other hand, recognise that active participation in political life and in socialist construction is the most fruitful path to a genuine artistic interpretation of social realities. That is why the socialist national culture that is developing in the GDR sets an example for the whole of Germany and why cultural life in the GDR arouses the interest of many people in other countries.



Drama, Opera and Concerts

With its 89 theatres and opera houses that give 27,000 performances to audiences numbering more than 13 million people every year the GDR may be counted to those countries where the theatre is a very popular institution. There are five theatres giving performances for children and young people. An annual state expenditure of more than 100 million marks is allocated to the theatre. All stage companies concentrate on giving a faithful interpretation of the best dramatic and operatic humanist works of art from all over the world by both classical and contemporary authors and composers. Theatres such as the Berliner Ensemble under the direction of Professor Helene Weigel, the Comic Opera under the direction of Professor Walter Felsenstein, the Municipal Theatre in Leipzig under the direction of Professor Karl Kayser or the People's Theatre in Rostock under the management of Hanns Anselm Perten are of recognised international repute.

The repertoires are extremely many-sided and reflect all tastes. On page 79 are examples of some of the works given in the course of a year by two theatres:

For many years theatre-goers have taken advantage of the subscription system that grants considerable price reductions. New in theatre life is the extensive organisation of theatre-going for the rural population. Repertory performances in the villages and good transport facilities make it possible for the cooperative farmers to take an active part in cultural life.

Many internationally known orchestras such as the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig, the Berlin Staatskapelle, the Dresden Staatskapelle and the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra are worthy representatives of the concert life of the GDR. There are nine state symphony orchestras and 23 orchestras in the various districts. The Leipzig Thomaner Choir and the Dresden Kreuz Choir cultivate church music as an important part of the German cultural heritage. Large musical festivals, such as the Handel Festival in Halle, take place regularly in the GDR.

One of the main events in the cultural life of the Republic is the Berlin Festival that takes place every autumn. On this occasion the best ensembles, orchestras, ballets and soloists from the GDR and abroad give performances in the capital of the GDR. Here is a selection from the many performers:

Theatre Workshop, London; Czech Nonette; Marionette Theatre, Peking; Gorky Theatre, Leningrad; National Theatre, Belgrade; Athenaeum Theatre, Warsaw; Pantomime Theatre, Wroclaw; Pioneer Theatre Zagreb; Rumanian Revue Theatre; Janáček Quartet, Czechoslovakia; Devy Erlih, violin, France; Halina Czerny-Stefanska, piano, Poland; Ratika El-Hefny, Soprano, UAR; Dan Jordachescu, baritone, Rumania; Dore Hoyer, dancer, West Berlin.

SELECTION OF THE WORKS PERFORMED AT TWO THEATRES DURING
ONE YEAR

Municipal Theatre Karl-Marx-Stadt—Drama

Shakespeare, Hamlet and A Midsummer Night's Dream
Schiller, Don Carlos
Musset, You can't play with love
Ibsen, Ghosts
Brecht, The Caucasian Chalk Circle and Senora Carrar's Rifles
Stolper/Granin, Two Physicists
Aljoschin, The Sickroom
Kohout, Journey round the world in 80 Days
Priestley, Mr. Kettle and Mrs. Moon
Goldoni, Le baruffe chiozotte
Csiky, The Divorce
Lorca, Mariana Pineda
Shaw, Pygmalion
Gorky, The Enemies
O'Casey, The Shadow of a Gunman
Panitz, Ein gewisser Leweritz
Koch, Mordsache Brisson

Municipal Theatre Leipzig—Opera and Operetta

Verdi, A Masked Ball
Wagner, Lohengrin
Mozart, The Marriage of Figaro and Die Gärtnerin aus Liebe
Weber, Oberon
Puccini, Tosca
Shostakovitch, Katarina Ismailova
Bush, Sugar Reapers
Porter, Kiss me Kate
Kreuder, Bel Ami
Offenbach/Hacks, La belle Helène
Strauss, The Gipsy Baron
Donizetti, Don Pasquale

Cultural Centres and Folk Art

More than 1,250 cultural centres and clubhouses offer a wealth of opportunity for people to participate in cultural activities. This new development in cultural life provides cinemas, stages with up-to-date equipment, libraries and facilities for folk and amateur art, for lectures, study circles and other group activities. The Centre for Cultural Work in Leipzig gives guidance to more than 50 folk art ensembles and over 20,000 folk art groups and promotes the traditions of folk art. The work of the Centre is supported by professional artists. At present there are 3,500 workers' and farmers' theatres, amateur dramatic groups and cabarets, 100 amateur symphony and chamber music orchestras, 4,500 amateur dance bands, 5,000 choirs and groups of singers and 1,500 folk dance groups in the GDR. People with literary inclinations have formed 300 groups of worker-writers. In the industrial and agricultural enterprises there are amateur groups for painting and sculpture, films and batik work, literature, dramatic art, dancing and many other fields of interest.

The consistent work in the sphere of folk art has encouraged many talented people. The best of them receive the opportunity to study at academies or colleges of the fine arts. Well-known stage artists such as Jack Theis, the soloist of the State Opera Ballet in Dresden, or the actor Erich Franz who died so prematurely, started their careers in folk art groups. The Government of the GDR not only supports folk art financially but also acknowledges exceptional achievements in this sphere by awarding the "National Prize for Folk Art". The radio and television services arrange for amateur performers to appear in their programmes and their performances are of a high standard. The major event in this sphere of cultural life is the Workers' Festival which takes place every year. After elimination contests in the districts and counties the best performers compete with each other at this Festival.

Publishing and Libraries

Publishers in the GDR produced 7,600 books with a total of 99 million copies in 1964. Books from the GDR are exported to more than 100 countries. An average of six books are bought annually per head of population in the GDR. Editions of best-selling novels often run to more than a hundred thousand copies in the GDR. 750,000 copies of "Naked Among Wolves", the novel in which Bruno Apitz, who was himself interned in a concentration camp, made a thorough-going exposure of nazism, were published in the German edition alone. In the same way





*Polytechnical lessons
at a radio and TV
engineering works
in Greiz (Gera County).*

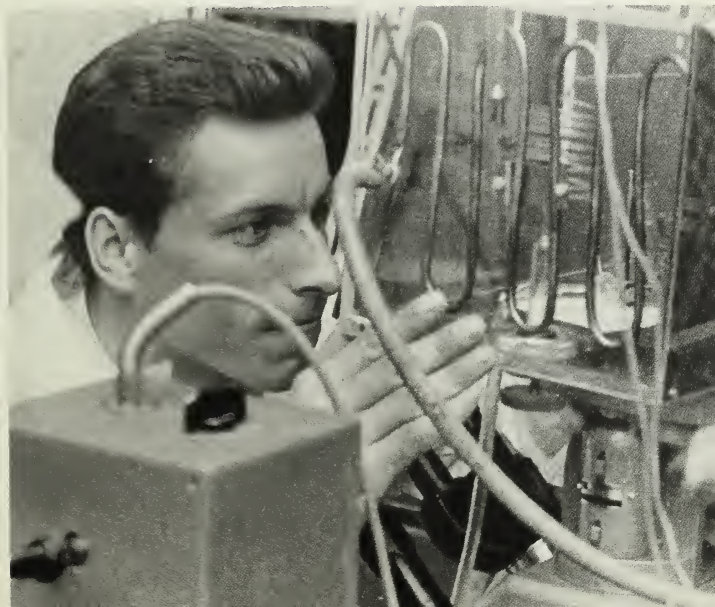
*How could it be improved?
Modelling group at
a nursery school in Berlin.*



The Institute of Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (Karl Marx University in Leipzig) has its own experimental station where many foreign students increase their knowledge.



An experiment in the Department of Colloidal Chemistry of the Physical-Chemical Institute of the German Academy of Sciences in Berlin.





Wartburg Castle near Eisenach.

hundreds of thousands of people read "The Adventures of Werner Holt", a novel by Dieter Noll, a young writer who described the transformation of a young German. Similar successes were achieved with Erwin Strittmatter's novel "Ole Bienkopp" that has a village background, "Divided Heaven" by Christa Wolf—a love story in divided Germany—and Erik Neutsch's novel "Trace of the Stanes". The works of Bertolt Brecht, Anna Seghers, Johannes R. Becher, Thomas Mann, Heinrich Mann, Lian Feuchtwanger, Arnold Zweig, Johannes Brabawski and of young authors writing about contemporary problems have appeared in large editions. German classical and foreign literature also receive particular attention; from the 1964/65 publications we name only Simanov, Tagore, Faulkner, Hemingway, Steinbeck, Camus, Sean O'Casey, Maravia, Dürrenmatt and Frisch. Pornographic and trashy publications as well as works with any kind of fascist and militarist tendency have been eliminated in the GDR. On the other hand good literature for children and young people is specially encouraged.

Although there is scarcely a household in the GDR which does not possess books of its own, the state libraries are very popular with many readers. They lend an average of 44 million books yearly. 50 per cent of schoolchildren and young people up to 18 years of age borrow books from the public libraries.

**NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES,
INCLUDING TRADE UNION LIBRARIES (in millions of books)**



Museums and Memorials

The Museums of the GDR, of which there are more than 650, are genuine centres of cultural education. Among the best known are the Dresden Art Collections whose buildings, especially the magnificent baroque Zwinger, were almost completely destroyed by the Anglo-American air raids in February 1945. The Zwinger has been restored at a cost of about 20 million marks. The art treasures which were saved from destruction in the Second World War by the Soviet Union have again found their permanent home in the Semper Gallery which has also been rebuilt. The Sistine Madonna by Raphael, the famous collection of copper engravings, the porcelain collection and the gems of the Green Vault are magnets that attract art-lovers from all over the world. The main attraction of the Museum Island in Berlin which has outstanding Egyptian, Islamic, Near Eastern and antique collections is the magnificent Pergamon Altar. The exhibitions of the Museum of German History in Berlin convey a vivid impression of the struggle of the working class in Germany. The Transport Museum and the German Museum of Hygiene in Dresden and the Postal Museum in Berlin are also internationally known. The memorials for the great German poets and philosophers of the German classical period in Weimar are visited by many people from home and abroad every year. Of the many national memorials and monuments dedicated to the heroic struggle of German and international anti-fascists against the Hitler regime, the memorials on the site of the former concentration camps in Buchenwald near Weimar, Sachsenhausen and Ravensbrück should be mentioned.

Film, Radio, Television

DEFA, the state film enterprise of the GDR, has won international fame through many of its films. More than 600 popular scientific, satirical and cartoon short films, feature films, television and documentary films are produced every year and about 100 feature films are synchronised. DEFA films are shown in more than 70 countries of the world. The GDR has over 1,000 cinemas which are visited by about 150 million people yearly. There are a further 8,600 cinema halls in the rural communities. Besides films made in the GDR, hundreds of good films from other countries are shown every year. The GDR maintains connections with 550 distribution companies in 75 countries. GDR films have received awards and prizes at numerous international festivals including those at Karlovy Vary, Moscow, Edinburgh, Venice and Cannes.

The German Film and Television Academy provides facilities for training film producers, dramatists, actors and cameramen.

Every autumn people from the film world meet at the International Documentary and Short Film Festival held in Leipzig under the motto: "Films of the World—for the Peace of the World". A special feature of the Festival is the Retrospective and public discussions.

The programmes of the German Democratic Radio are broadcast by Radio GDR I and II, the Deutschlandsender (German Radio), Radio Berlin, Berlin Wave and the foreign language service, Radio Berlin International. The programme of the GDR Television Service is transmitted from ten large stations for an average of ten hours a day. According to reports from West German Press agencies the programme of the GDR Television Service is regularly seen by millions of West German citizens as well. The Television Academy, an educational programme, has a large number of regular viewers and thus plays an important part in the further qualification of adults. The GDR Television Service is a member of Intervision which organises the exchange of programmes and direct transmission between the socialist countries. Through the medium of Intervision the GDR Television Service also cooperates with Eurovision which covers West European television services.

Sports

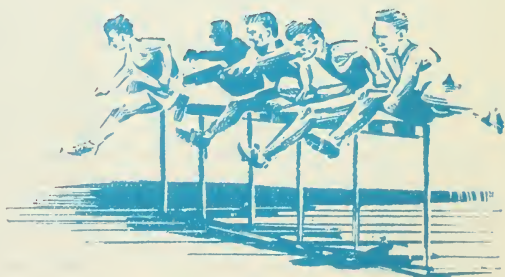
Physical culture and sports occupy an important place in the life of the GDR. Almost 16,000 modern sports grounds are available for the town and village population. The indoor swimming halls in Magdeburg and Rostock and the world championship motor-racing track near Hohenstein-Ernstthal where many international events take place come in for much praise. The German College of Physical Culture in Leipzig is one of the most imposing institutions of German sport. The sportsmen of the GDR are organised in the German Gymnastics and Sports Federation (DTSB) which has more than 1.8 members in 7,251 clubs. The Federation unites 47 sports associations all of which are affiliated to international sports federations. Many sports officials of the GDR are active in the presidiums, executive committees, offices and commissions of the international federations.

Throughout the country there are ample opportunities for sporting activities in which more than a million people participate, either in sports groups of the enterprises or of the residential districts without having to be members of the DTSB. Sports equipment can be hired for a small fee. Special attention is given to sports for children and young people. All children between six and fourteen years of age can join special children's

groups of the DTSB clubs or take part in the activities of school sports clubs. Some 1.3 million children make use of these facilities. In 1963, on the occasion of its fifteenth anniversary, the German Gymnastics and Sports Federation was awarded the Patriotic Order of Merit in gold for its national and international achievements by the Government of the GDR.

Many international successes at European and world championship events evidence the high level of performance of GDR sportsmen. At the Olympic Winter Games at Innsbruck Ortrun Enderlein and Thomas Köhler won gold medals in toboggan racing. At the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964 GDR sportsmen were able to carry off 3 gold, 11 silver and 5 bronze medals; the silver medals for the men's 4 × 100-metre crawl, 4 × 100-metre relay race and 4 × 200-metre free style as well as the bronze medals in the team riding event and in the contest of the gymnasts in twelve disciplines were counted for both German states. The gold medals were won by Ingrid Gulbin-Kramer in springboard diving, Karin Balzer in the track hurdle event over 80 metres and Jürgen Eschert in canoe racing (Canadian singles). The football eleven of the GDR won a bronze medal.

The most important event in 1965 as far as GDR sport was concerned was the Madrid decision of the International Olympic Committee to allow an independent GDR team to participate with equal rights in the 1968 Olympic Games in Grenoble and Mexico City. This decision is in accordance with Regulation 7 of the IOC Statute which states that each national committee recognised by the IOC has the right to enter its own team.



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1. Which chapters interested you most of all?

2. Which questions would you like to have answered in greater detail?

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